U.S. investigating fatal shooting of Iraqi in Fallujah mosque

STARS STRIPES.



Video allegedly shows slaying of abducted CARE director

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Bush selects Rice as secretary of state

Ridge, Thompson believed next to resign from Cabinet Page 8



Wounds don't stop walk down the aisle

Spc. Aaron Bugg's leg muscles were severed by a roadside bomb in Iraq. Technology helped the soldier stand tall while saying his vows to his childhood sweetheart at Walter Reed Army Medical Center

Army Spc. Aaron Bugg, 20, of the 25th Infantry Division out of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, right, and Liss McCroskey, 21, are married in a ceremony in the stone chapel at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington. While 15 to 20 couples tie the knot at the stone chapel each year, Bugg's is the first wedding involving someone wounded in a war zone since 1993.

LATV

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Ne ws Tracker ... What's new with old news

States

Hinckley's outings: Prosecutors and defense lawyers agree John Hinckley Jr's mental heath has improved but they differed on whether he's well enough to safely take longer, unsupervised trips away from the psychiatric hospital he's called home since shooting President Reagan in 1981.

Hinckley lawyer Barry W. Levine said his client's mental illness has been in remission for more than a decade. He accused the government of holding Hinckley to an unreasonable standard.

But government lawyer Robert Chapman said Hinckley, 49, has been deceptive about his relationship with a former girlfriend and warmed a federal judge not to be fulled into a false sense of security just because Hinckley has been well-behaved during prior outings.

Vermont shooting appeal: Lawyers for Robert Woodward's family are appealing a federal judge's ruling that they don't have a case against the town of Brattleboro, Vt., and the two police officers who fatally shot Woodward in 2001.

The civil case, filed on the behalf of Wood-ward's father, mother and sister in U.S. District Court in Brattleboro, alleges that Brattleboro Police officers Marshall Holbrook and Terrance Parker and the town are liable for the shooting death of Woodward on the morning of Dec. 2, 2001, in the All Soul's Unitarian Church in West Brattleboro.

On the morning of his death, Woodward, 37, then living in Bellows Falls, entered the church, brandished a knife with a 3.5-inch blade, and was addressing the congregation about conspiracies before police arrived. According to eyewitness accounts, Woodward had threatened suicide with the knife, but hadn't at any point menaced anyone before being shot seven times in his arms, stomach and back.

Gotti racketeering trial: Mafia don John Gotti's older brother ordered a hit on Salvatore "Sammy the Bull" Gravano as payback for testifying against the late mob boss, a prosecutor told a jury.

Gravano was arrested on drug charges before the alleged plot could be carried out. The defense argued Peter Gotti, a former sanitation worker who turned 65 on Mon-

sanitation worker who turned 65 on Monday, was a victim of guilt-by-association with his notorious brother, the Gambino crime family kingpin who died in prison in 2002.

"His name is his curse," said attorney Joseph Bondy. "Peter Gotti is not John Gotti."

Serial killer's murder trial: Coral Eugene Watts is a "stalking predator" who should be convicted in the slaying of a woman more than a quarter-century ago, a prosecutor said during closing arguments Tuesday in the only murder trial the confessed serial killer has faced.

Watts confessed in 1982 to 13 slayings but received immunity in 12 those killings as part of a deal with Texas prosecutors. He pleaded guilty to the lesser charge of burglary with intent to murder and was expected to serve his full 60-year sentence.

In an attempt to keep him behind bars, Michigan authorities have charged Watts with murder in the 1979 stabbing death of Dutcher in the Detroit suburb of Ferndale. If convicted, Watts, 51, faces a mandatory life sentence without the possibility of parole

Malnourished boys: A Camden, N.J., man accused of starving his four adopted sons was in a coma Monday after suffering a massive stroke, according to officials of his church

Raymond Jackson, 51, and his wife Vanessa, 49, are awaiting trial on aggravated assault and child endangerment charges.

The couple gave their first interview since their 2003 arrest in this week's edition



Russian school attack survivors: Russian children who survived the deadly September siege of their school in Beslan, Russia, listen to a priest speak on Christian history in the Orthodox chapel within the Church of the Holy Sepulchre on Tuesday. The church in Jerusalem's Old City is built over the tomb where Jesus is said to have been buried. Eighteen children who were former hostages, some of whose family members are among the 330 people who died in the Beslan school, are visiting Israel for three weeks, hosted by the southern Israell own of Ashkelon, which helped pay the cost of their visit. Many of the children who survived the attack are back in schools around the region. Some will vacation in Norway in the spring and summer as guests of that country.

of New York Magazine. In it, they said they were the victims of lies by their eldest adopted son and prosecutors.

Prosecutors said the couple systematically starved their four adopted sons for years until one of them was found last year rummaging through a neighbor's trash for food. At the time, Bruce Jackson was 19, stood 4 feet tall and weighed 45 pounds.

The Jacksons deny starving the boys and say that the children had eating disorders.

World

Basque arrests: Police arrested 17 suspected members of the armed Basque separatist group ETA on Tuesday in a series of pre-dawn raids in northern Spain, officials said

About 150 police officers took part in the raids in all three Basque provinces and in the neighboring Navarra region, the Interior Ministry said.

The arrests raised to at least 32 the number of suspected ETA members detained since October 25, when a suspected logistics operative was arrested in Bilbao, the largest and wealthiest Basque city.

ETA has been blamed for more than 800 deaths in its more than 30-year campaign for an independent Basque homeland in territory straddling northern Spain and southwest France.

Madrid bombing trial: The first trial stemming from the Madrid terror bombing ended after just 25 minutes Tuesday as a Spanish teenager pleaded guilty to charges he helped transport dynamite used in the attack.

The 16-year-old accepted the prosecutor's request for a six-year term in a juvenile detention center.

The trial had been scheduled to last three days at the National Court. The March 11 attack killed 191 people and was blamed on Muslim militants linked to al-Qaida.

Thatcher son's extradition: Equatorial Guinea has decided to seek the extradition of Mark Thatcher, son of the former British prime minister, for trial in an alleged oup plot in the isolated, oil-rich central African nation, a legal official close to the government said Tuesday.

Thatcher, a 51-year-old businessman, is

now under arrest in South Africa in connection with the alleged plot Equatorial Guinea accuses Thatcher and other financiers, of conspiring for the mercenary overthrow of 25-year president Teodoro Obiang.

Sept. 11 terror trial in Germany: A man accused of supporting the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States was close friends with lead hijacker Mohamed Atta and once said something big was being planned and that "the Jews will burn," a witness testified Tuesdav.

Holger L., who roomed with suspect Mounir el Motassadeq while they were both students at Hamburg's Technical University between 1996 and 1999, said the Moroccan often had visits from Atta and Ramzi Binalshibh, among others.

nalshibh, among outers.
Binalshibh, who is in secret U.S. custody, is thought to be the Hamburg al-Qaida cell's key contact with Osama bin Laden's terrorist network.

Business

Australian defamation settlement: In a low-key end to a groundbreaking case that extended the reach of Australia's libel laws to the world, Dow Jones & Co. has settled a defamation lawsuit launched against it by an Australian mining magnate.

The case started after mining boss Joe Gutnick claimed that an October 2000 Bar ron's magazine article had portrayed him as a schemer given to stock scams, money laundering and fraud. The article was also published online.

In a landmark ruling in December 2002, the High Court of Australia unanimously ruled that the case could be heard in Gutnick's home state of Victoria because people there could have read the article online.

Battle for Bud name: The latest round of the global legal battle between Czech brewery Budejovicky Budvar and U.S. beer giant Anheuser-Busch I.d. remained unresolved Tuesday after the European Union's high court passed the trademark case back to judges in Finland.

The Finnish case is part of a tussle dating back almost a century and involving dozens of lawsuits around the world for rights to the Budweiser, Bud and Budvar beer labels.

Photo and stories from wire services

U.S. deaths in Iraq

As of Monday, Nov. 15, 2004, at least 1,194 members of the U.S. mili-tary have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, accord ing to an Associated Press count. At least 928 died as a result of hostile action, the Defense Department said as of Monday. The figures include

three military civilians.

The AP count matches the Defense Department's tally, which was last updated Monday

The British military has reported 74 deaths. Italy has reported 19; Po-land, 13; Spain, 11; Ukraine, nine; Bulgaria, seven; Slovakia, three; and Estonia, Thailand and the Netherlands, two each. Denmark, El Salvador, Hungary and Latvia have re-

ported one death each. Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 1,056 U.S. military members have died, according to AP's count. That includes at least 816 deaths resulting from hostile action, according to the military's numbers.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

A soldier died Monday in military vehicle accident in Baghdad.

The latest identifications reported

by the military: ■ Marine Lance Cpl. Benjamin S. Bryan, 23, Lumberton, N.C.; killed Saturday in Irag's Anbar province: assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Ma-

rine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif. ■ Marine Lance Cpl. Justin M. Ellsworth, 20, Mount Pleasant, Mich.; killed Saturday in Iraq's Anbar province; assigned to Combat Service Support Battalion 1, Combat Service Support Group 11, 1st Force Service Support Group, I Marine Ex-peditionary Force, Camp Pendleton.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Victor R. Lu, 22. Los Angeles: killed Saturday in Iraq's Anbar province; assigned to 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Justin D. McLeese, 19, Covington, La.; killed Saturday in Iraq's Anbar province; assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

■ Marine Sgt. Byron W. Norwood, 25, Pflugerville, Texas; killed Satur-day in Iraq's Anbar province; as-signed to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Ma rine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Army Capt. Sean P. Sims, 32, El Paso, Texas; died Saturday in Fallujah, Iraq, when his unit was attacked while clearing a building; assigned to 2nd Battalion, 2nd Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Vilseck, Germany

■ Army Spc. Jose A. Velez, 23, Lubbock, Texas; died Saturday in Fallujah, when his unit came under fire; assigned to 2nd Battalion, 7th Cavalry Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, Fort Hood, Texas.

■ Marine Cpl. Nicholas L. Zi-olkowski, 22, Towson, Md.; assigned to 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Base Camp, Leieune, N.C.

Fighting intensifies in Mosul

U.S., Iraqi forces move to retake parts of northern Iraqi city

BY KATARINA KRATOVAC

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - U.S. and Iraqi troops stormed insurgent-held police stations and neighborhoods Tuesday, launching an offensive to retake parts of Mosul, a northern Iraqi city where gunmen staged a mass uprising last week in support of fighters in Fal-

Troops secured several police stations by the mid-afternoon, meeting "very little re-sistance," the U.S. military said. Mosul resi-dents claimed that insurgents blew up three stations they were holding before abandoning them ahead of the U.S. assault. The U.S. military denied that any police stations were destroyed.

However, Nineveh Provincial Deputy Gov. Khissrou Gouran said that militants blew up the Zuhour police station Tuesday.

"They attacked it three days ago and it was vacated from police. Today, the armed men came back and blew it up. The aim is that the policemen and the National Guard don't go back to it," he said.

U.S. warplanes and helicopters hovered over Mosul - Iraq's third largest city, with about 1 million residents — as loud explo sions and gunfire were heard. About 1,200 U.S. soldiers were taking part in the offensive to recapture about a dozen police stations abandoned by Iraqi forces in the upris-

Mortars struck two areas near the main



Insurgents run near a burning oil facility in Eid al-Jahish, near Mosul, Iraq, on Monday. Gunmen attacked and set fire to the station, where oil is stored and then pumped to Ceyhan port, according to eyewitnesses

government building in the city center, killing three civilians and injuring 25 others. hospital officials said. A car bomb exploded near a U.S. convoy in a Sunni Arab neighborhood of western Mosul, wounding one U.S. soldier, the military said.

The uprising swept across Mosul — 225 miles north of Baghdad — amid a wave of violence across north and central Iraq fol-lowing the U.S.-led attack on Fallujah, the insurgents' strongest bastion, west of Baghdad. The week-old Fallujah offensive has killed at least 38 American troops and six Iraqi soldiers.

American officials estimate that 1 200 insurgents have been killed in the Falluiah fighting.

But many insurgents are thought to have slipped out of Fallujah ahead of the U.S. on-

In a speech found Monday on the Internet, a speaker said to be Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the country's most feared terror leader, called on his followers to "shower" the Americans "with rockets and mortars" because U.S. forces were spread too thin as they seek to "finish off Islam in Fallujah.

Military investigates report of Marine shooting injured Iraqi man in Fallujah

BY ROBERT H. REID

The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - The U.S. military said Tuesday it is investigating the videotaped fatal shooting of a wounded man by U.S. Marine in a mosque in Fallujah. Iraqis condemned the act as "cowardice" and "something forbidden in Islam.

Investigators will determine whether the Marine acted in self-defense against what a spokesman described as an "enemy combatant."

The dramatic footage was taken Saturday by pool corre-spondent Kevin Sites of NBC, whose report said the man who was killed didn't appear to be armed or threatening in any way with no weapons visible in the mosque.

The slain man was among a group of men wounded in fighting a day earlier at the mosque and left there. Three others in the group were also shot again Saturday by Marines, Sites

The Marine involved in the fatal shooting was withdrawn from the battlefield pending the results of the investigation, the U.S. military said.



In this image taken from pool video provided to the Associated Press by NBC News, a U.S. Marine is seen, left, raising his rifle in the direction of Iraqi men lying on the floor of a mosque in Fallujah, Iraq, on Saturday.

"We follow the law of armed conflict and hold ourselves to a high standard of accountabilisaid Lt. Gen. John F. Sattler, commanding general of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force "The facts of this case will be thoroughly pursued to make an informed decision and to protect the rights of all persons involved."

The Marine statement said the investigators would look at

"an allegation of the unlawful use of force in the death of an

enemy combatant." "The purpose of this investigation is to determine whether the Marine acted in self-defense, violated military law or failed to comply with the Law of Armed Conflict," it said.

Florian Westphal, a spokes man for the International Committee for the Red Cross, said he couldn't say for sure whether the men in the mosque were prisoners or not.

"The fact that was reported was that he was wounded. But whether he was already a prisoner or not was not clear to me," Westphal said.

"We cannot, on the basis of TV images - no matter how disturbing and disconcerting they are - arrive at a judgment about an incident. We were not on the spot so we cannot be aware of all the circumstances of this incident," he said.

"It's clearly recognized that people in combat situations are under enormous strain." Westphal said But, he added, the Geneva Conventions are clear: Protection of wounded combatants once they are out of action is a basic rule

Iraqi Interior Minister Falah Hassan al-Nagib said that while 'killing a wounded person is rejected by us," the militants in Fallujah were responsible for their own brutal acts against Iraqis and foreigners, and were 'killers and criminals.

Footage of the shooting was aired on Al-Jazeera television.

Iraqis interviewed Tuesday in Baghdad harshly con

demned the killing.

Family believes CARE director was killed

Al-Jazeera says it has video of slaving

By ROBERT H. REID
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Al-Jazeera television said Tuesday that it received a videotape showing the slaying of a woman believed to be hostage aid worker Margaret Hassan. Hassan's family in London said they believed the longtime director of CARE in Irao was dead.

The station initially said it would air parts of the video, but then a spokesman said it would not. "We don't show acts of killing," said Jihad Ballout. "We've never done it before, outside

war."

CARE said in a statement, "It is with profound sadness that we have learned of the existence of a video in which it appears that our colleague Margaret Hassan has been killed. ... The whole of CARE is in mourning."

The 59-year-old Briton was abducted in Baghdad on Oct. 19, the most prominent of more than 170 foreigners kidnapped in Iraq this year. Her captors later issued videos showing her pleading for Britain to withdraw its troops from Iraq and calling for the release of female Iraqi prisoners.

Ballout said the station received the tape a few days ago but had not been sure of its authentici-

"We invited British diplomatic officials to come and view it," he said. "It's now likely that the image depicts Mrs. Hassan."

Her four brothers and sisters said they believe Hassan is dead.

"Our hearts are broken," they said in a statement. "We have kept hoping for as long as we could, but we now have to accept that Margaret has probably gone and at last her suffering has onded."

The family did not indicate why they now believed Hassan was dead, but said: "Those who are guilty of this atrocious act, and



The family of Margaret Hassan, the kidnapped British aid worker who heads CARE International's operations in Iraq, above, said Tuesday they believed she was dead.

those who support them, have no excuses."

On Sunday, U.S. Marines found the mutilated body of what they

believe was a Western woman on a street in a Fallujah during the U.S. assault on the insurgent stronghold. Besides Hassan, the only Western woman known held was Teresa Borcz Khalifa, 54, a Polish-born longtime resident of Iraq who was seized last month.

Al-Jazeera reported on Nov. 2 that Hassan's captors had threatened to turn her over to followers of Jordanian militant Abu Musab al-Zamawi.

Al-Zarqawi and his men have been blamed for numerous deadly car bombings and the slayings of foreign hostages, including three Americans and a Briton. More than 170 foreigners have been kidnapped in Iraq this year; more than 30 of them have been slain.

Born in Ireland, Hassan also held British and Iraqi citizenship. She lived in Iraq for 30 years and married an Iraqi.

In its statement, her family said: "Nobody can justify this.

Margaret was against sanctions and the war. To commit such a crime against anyone is unforgivable. But we cannot believe how anybody could do this to our kind, compassionate sister.

"The gap she leaves will never

By the light of the fire



An Iraqi man and boy walk near the scene of a gas pipeline fire in the northern Riyadh region, some 38 miles southwest of Kirkuk, Iraq, on Tuesday. Saboteurs triggered an explosion, setting off a fire which was still burning hours later.

Former soldiers resisting return to duty

Stars and Stripes

The Army has encountered resistance from more than 2,000 former soldiers it has ordered back to military work, complicating its efforts to fill gaps in the force, the New York Times reported Tuesday.

Many of these former soldiers — some of whom say they have not trained, held a gun or even gone for a jog in years — object to being sent to Iraq and Afghanistan now, after they thought they were through with active duty.

They are seeking exemptions, filing court cases or simply failing to report, moves that will be watched closely by approximately 110,000 other members of the Individual Ready Reserve, a corps of soldiers who are no longer on active duty but still are elieble for call-up. the Times said.

The Army has sent notices to more than 4,000 former soldiers informing them that they must return to active duty, but more than 1,800 of them have already requested exemptions or delays, many of which are being considered.

And, of about 2,500 who were due to arrive on military bases for refresher training by Nov. 7, 733 had not shown up, the article stated.

Some former soldiers acknowledge that the Army has every right to call them back, but argue that their personal circumstances — illness, single parenthood, financial woes — make going overseas impossible now.

seas impossible now.

Others say they do not believe they are eligible because, they contend, they already finished the obligations they signed up for when they joined the military.

Punishment recommended for unit that refused orders

he Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Army is recommending punishment for about two dozen soldiers from an Army Reserve unit in Iraq that refused orders to drive a fuel convoy because they believed it was too dangerous, officials said Tuesday.

No final decisions have been made, and none of the soldiers has been charged with a crime, the officials said, but preliminary findings of an Army investigation faulted about 24 members of the 343rd Quartermaster Company, which is based at Rock Hill, S.C.

About 18 of the 24 were held for nearly two days after refusing orders to drive a fuel convoy from Tallil Air Base in southern Iraq to a base north of Baghdad. Another six also have been faulted.

Most of the accused face administrative actions such as fines or reduction in rank, although officials said it was possible that some could face courts-martial under the Uniform Code of Military Justice. Their refusal to obey orders was deemed to be deterimental to good order and discipline.

Brig. Gen. James E. Chambers, commanding general of 13th Corps Support Command, which manages the provision of fuel, food and ammunition across Iraq, ordered two investigations. One examined the soldiers' refusal of their orders and the other focused on allegations that the unit's trucks were unfit for hazardous duty.

U.S. officers say the refusal to carry out the mission on Oct. 13 was an isolated incident and not an indication of a broader breakdown in discipline. Still, it's no secret that convoy duty is one of the most perilous jobs in Irao.

When reality's rough, GIs turn to fantasy



Snc. Mark Hull of the 961st Quartermaster Company watches NFL games Sunday at Logistics Support Area Anaconda, Iraq. But his interest really is on his fantasy football team. Like many soldiers here, he passes his time with the popular game.

Online football leagues provide wartime diversion

BY RON JENSEN Stars and Strings

LOGISTICS SUPPORT AREA ANACON-DA. Iraq - Life doesn't stop just because vou are in a war zone

Mortgages must be paid. Children still ow, have birthdays and skin their knees. And of course, a fellow can't neglect his fantasy football team.

Nearly 30 million Americans play fantasy football, according to surveys, and more than a few of them are in Iraq, battling insurgents while trying to decide whether to start David Givens or Isaac Bruce at wide receiver this week.

"It's one of the major things that I do because it's one of the best ways I can think of to kill a lot of time over here," said Sgt. Pete Robinson, 22, of the 29th Signal Battalion out of Fort Lewis, Wash., now at LSA Ana-conda. "And it does kill a lot of time."

For the uninitiated, an explanation may be in order. Fantasy footballers draft play ers from the NFL and use the players' real statistics to compete in head-to-head competition with other fantasy footballers. If Priest Holmes rushes for three touchdowns for evample, the fantasy football player who 'owns" him is a happy guy.

The game has grown by leaps and bounds in recent years, thanks to the Internet, and while many Internet leagues require a payment for the service, there are several free games online

er Company at LSA Anaconda is in two leagues - one with family members back in Texas and one with strangers through the Yahoo! Web site. He's been playing in fanta-

sy leagues for about six years.

He spent Sunday evening at the recreation tent on base watching games and following his players, especially Peyton Manning, one of the most prolific fantasy league scorers in the NFL.

"He's pretty much keeping my team afloat," said Hull.

The league he plays with his family, he said, is particularly important. On Sunday, he was going head to head against his father "It's more of a connection," he said. "It's

nore than just letters and phone calls." The key to the sport is Internet access so cam owners can make lineup changes when an NFL player gets injured, is not playing well or is not playing because his team has a

bve for the week. That's a bit easier at a base such as Ana conda than at smaller, more remote places. Spc. Ronald Helmick, 23, is with the 1st Infantry Division's 2nd Brigade Reconnaissance Team at FOB Brassfield Mora, where Internet access is hard to come by.

He's in a fantasy league with people from across the military, but he accepts the fact that he can't manage his team like he should. Internet access is infrequent and too valuable to spend on trivia

'You're too busy writing your family and

stuff to worry about a football league," he

Nonetheless, he was watching the NFL on Sunday at LSA Anaconda while waiting for a ride back to his unit. He kept watch, he said, for highlights that might include a member of his fantasy team.

When they show highlights of your guy

doing good, you get happy," he said.

Spc. Brooks Taylor, 23, broadcast chief with the 28th Public Affairs Detachment out of Fort Lewis, Wash., at LSA Anaconda, also is in a free Yahoo! league. He said sometimes it's hard to keep up.

"There definitely has been two weeks that I know of I wasn't able to change players he said. "I've been gone or too busy to check

Despite that, he said, the league does provide a diversion from the daily routine of work and mortar attacks, Taylor said. Plus, he said, it keeps him in touch with

the NFL, something hard to track when the early games start at 9 p.m. Robinson is in two leagues. One is a public league through Yahoo! and the other is with

comrades in the 1st Infantry Division And he doesn't stop there. In Iraq since January, he was the winner of his fantasy baseball league last summer and he has just

started competing in a fantasy league based on NBA statistics and players. "The seasons overlap so all year long, I've got something," he said.

E-mail Ron Jensen at: jensenr@mail.estripes.osd.mil

Wounded soldier walks down aisle

Buoyed by love and technology, GI stands to recite wedding vows

BY BILL BROADWAY The Washington Post

WASHINGTON - Six weeks ago, Spc. Aaron Bugg was dragged from a Humvee that had been hit by a roadside bomb in Iraq, his leg muscles severed and unable to carry his weight. Last Saturday, Bugg walked down the aisle with the woman he has loved since jun-

More than 50 friends and family members attended the wedding, in the stone chapel on the grounds of Walter Reed Army Medical Cen-

Bugg, 20, of the 25th Infantry Division out of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, wore a tuxedo that had a specially made left pant leg to cover a "fixator," a device that stabilizes the leg while bone and muscle regenerate. His bride. Lisa Mc-Croskey, 21, wore a beaded satin gown

Bugg sat through much of the 40-minute ceremony, but he stood to take his wedding vows and for the lighting of the unity candle. After the chaplain, Capt. Robin W. Pizanti, presented the couple, Bugg held his wife's arm as they walked out of the church and down two small flights of steps.
"He wasn't supposed to walk

said the surprised best man, Matias Reveles, as he rushed a wheelchair to assist his nephew. each year at Walter Reed, which has treated 3.612 patients from Operation Iraqi Freedom

But it's the first wedding involving someone wounded in a war zone since 1993, when a soldier hurt in Somalia was married there, according to Walter Reed spokesman Bill Swisher. And this ceremony almost didn't happen.

A week ago, Walter Reed's office of the judge advocate general learned that several area businesses had offered to donate their services, which involved the groom's custom tuxedo, hairstyling for the bride and three bridesmaids, wedding programs and a honeymoon night and reception at the Four Seasons Hotel in Georgetown. Such donations violate the military's code of ethics and couldn't be accepted, Bugg and McCroskey were told

But Ed Solomon, owner of Anthony's Tuyedos and Fisher House a foundation that assists wounded veterans and their families at 15 medical centers in the United States and Germany, worked out a

The businesses could donate the services to Fisher House, which would give them to the couple, said Jim Weiskonf, Fisher's vice president for communications in Rockville, Md. Like the Fisher program that provides airline tickets for



Army Spc. Aaron Bugg. 20. and Lisa McCroskey. 21. were married Saturday in the stone chapel at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C. Bugg suffered severe leg injuries in Iraq when a bomb exploded near the Humvee he was riding in. Here, the bride helps her groom, wearing a custom tuxedo that accommodates a stabilizer on his left leg, on the lawn of the chapel while Danny Reveles attends the chair.

wounded veterans and their families, the procedure would not benefit one person but be open to all qualified personnel, he said

The couple, who found each other in eighth grade in Marionville, Mo., got engaged last Christmas. But they didn't set a date until Bugg came home for a monthlong leave in late August, McCroskey They decided on January, when Bugg's infantry unit was scheduled to return from its security mission near Kirkuk.

Nine days after Bugg returned to Iraq, a bomb exploded near the unarmored Humvee in which he and three other soldiers were

riding. He asked the medic in a helicopter, "Sir, don't let them take my arms or legs.

He was given anesthesia and has no memory of the four days between the explosion and waking up at Walter Reed. McCroskey withdrew from classes at Southwest State University in Missouri Springfield to be with him.

A week later, they decided to marry sooner. An engaged partner does not have the same visitation and legal rights as a spouse, and they wanted to be as close together

as possible, they said. When McCroskey saw the chapel, she was impressed. "I said, 'Omigosh, this place is beautiful. I would love to get married here.'

McCroskey said she has seen ome people "bail out" of relationships after a military member returns from the battlefield with severe physical or emotional wounds. That's something she said she could not, and would not, do.

"Aaron's my best friend and the love of my life," she said. "I could be home in school, but I would be thinking about him and wishing I was here."

Bugg said her presence has

helped motivate him and has given meaning to his recovery, which his doctors told him could take at least

Troops find treasures among junk in Iraq

heir yards might consist of sand and gravel, but that doesn't mean soldiers at a forward operating base near Mosul, Iraq, can't bene fit from finding a way to turn one man's junk into another man's treasure.

FOB Marez's Community Activity Center now features its very own yard sale, a table loaded with goodies people are trying to sell. The recent stock included a soccer ball, computer case, used PlayStation 2, a box of nails and a lamp

"It's small," observed Pfc. Jeremy Scott, with the 1st Battalion

24th Infantry Regiment, while on his way to the center's Internet cafe. Scott wasn't too im-

pressed with the prices. He could buy a PlayStation and have it shipped over for less, he said. But at a small base,

to wear a Keylar

with no Army and Air Force Exchange Service store, it's better than nothing.

"They need to have more," Scott added. Mortars and meatballs

If spaghetti and meatballs are on the din-

It's a part of local legend at this outpost

ner menu at FOB MacKenzie, don't forget

east of Samarra that snaghetti and meat-

balls means mortars will fly. Twice in the early days of the 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry

Regiment's deployment to this base

enemy rockets landed inside the camp

boundary on spaghetti day. Most recently,

the mad mortarman struck again Nov. 5.

the last time the cooks dished up spaghetti.

Interesting, too, that the rockets usually hit between 4 and 5 p.m., just as the kitch-

en folk are preparing to serve the evening

The link is more folklore than fact. Rock-

ets have accompanied other menu selec-

tions as well (such as Swiss steak on Nov.

10). The 1-4 Cavalry's intelligence analysts, who slice and dice data on every

enemy attack, have yet to discern a statisti-

cally significant pattern.

MIDEAST NOTEBOOK

Steve Liewer and Juliana Gittler

"Adopt-a-Highway" volunteer screaming for cover - like home made hombs. According to a recent 1st ID news re-

American

This being Iraq,

though, workers en-counter some things

that might send an

lease, the Baqouba workers so far have discovered 47 roadside bombs - presumably intended for U.S. forces - and reported them to Iraqi police

Capturing the cup

Then again, maybe these insurgents just

Rusted cans and IEDS

Every day, 100 Iraqi "Adopt-a-High-

way" workers scour the streets of Bagou-

ba, Iraq, northeast of Baghdad, picking up

"Adopt-a-Highway" is a popular road

eautification program in the United

States, and leaders of the 1st Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade Combat Team have im-

don't care for Italian.

trash in return for cash.

ported a version of it.

While life in Iraq may not be all fun and games, some soldiers got to play a few games last week as they took time off from their often hazardous duty.

Soldiers at FOB Speicher tested their dribbling, passing and pulling abilities Friday during the Veterans Day Commander's Cup competition. The Delta Dawgs from 701st Main Sup-

port Battalion collected the cup, finishing first out of 12 teams. The daylong competition featured events such as basketball, football, volleyball and a 5-ton truck pull.

Morale, Welfare and Recreation organized the event.

Stars and Strines reporters Steve Liewer and ina Gittler contributed to this report. Steve ver is currently embedded with the 1st Infa Division in Iraq and can be reached at: liew-ers@mail.estripes.osd.mil; Juliana Gittler has recently completed her assignment in Iraq and is returning to Japan, she can be reached at: git-



First Sgt. Brent Jurgersen plants a little American flag beneath a memorial to seven 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry Regiment soldiers and one civilian killed this year from Forward Operating Base MacKenzie, Iraq, the squadron's headquarters base. The memorial was erected Tuesday in front of the base's new chow hall, which opened in time for a noon visit by 1st Infantry Division commander Maj. Gen. John Batiste. The new wooden chow hall replaces two tents, which burned to the ground about six weeks ago.

Chirac: Britian got little for supporting U.S. in Iraq

BY ROBERT BARR

The Associated Press

LONDON - Britain got very little in return for supporting the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq, and U.S. policies make it all but impossible for anyone to act as a bridge between Washington and Europe, French President Jacques Chirac said in an interview published Tuesday.

"I am not sure, with America as it is these days, that it would be easy for someone, even the British, to be an honest broker. Perhaps that will change, but that is the current state of things," Chirac was quoted as saying in an interview with British reporters in Paris.

But British Prime Minister Tony Blair, speaking Monday night in London, argued that Europe had an opportunity to engage with President Bush's administration

"Neither Europe nor the U.S. should be arrogant about the other. Here there's an opportunity for Europe. Ameri-can policy is evolving," Blair said in a speech in London.

"Increasingly both Europe and America are coming to realize that lasting security against fanatics and terrorists cannot be provided by conventional military force but requires a commitment to democracy, freedom and justice. Blair said.

Chirac is due in London on Thursday for a two-day visit to mark the 100th anniversary of the Entente Cordiale between the two nations. The French president will be meet ing Blair and enjoying the hospitality of Queen Elizabeth II at Windsor Castle.

Recalling a meeting last year before the Iraq war, Chirac said he told Blair: "We have different positions on Iraq. Your position should at least have some use. That is to try to obtain in exchange a relaunch of the peace process in the Middle East."

"Well, Britain gave its support, but I did not see much in return. I am not sure that it is in the

nature of our American friends at the moment to return favors systematically," The Times newspaper quoted Chirac as saving.

Blair believes it is crucial for the European Union and the United States to work more closely together and sees the U.S. as the world's only superpower. Chirac however be-lieves the EU can act as a counterweight to U.S. influence in the world.

Reacting to Chirac's comments, Blair's official spokesman acknowledged that discussions Thursday might be tough.

"Quelle surprise," he said, using the French for "what a surprise.

"This is a view which the president has expounded on many occasions and there is no surprise about it. Also, there is no hiding that there is a disagreement. We do not believe in a world vision where you have competing spheres of influence. The president does. That is an open disagreement between us

But he said that Britain and France continued to work

closely on issues such as Iran's nuclear ambitions, alleviating poverty in Africa and the Middle East.

There is no reason why we cannot continue to work together on issues like that and also on European issues, even if it means that conversations on Thursday may be tough on other matters. That's life."

Visiting Washington last week, Blair put the Middle East peace process at the top of his agenda and Bush pledged to spend America's "political capital" brokering peace between Israelis and Palestinians Bush also announced last week that he planned to visit

Europe after he is sworn in for a second term in January. "In my second term, I will work to deepen our trans-Atlantic ties with the nations of Europe," the president said.

Speaking to British journalists in Paris, Chirac said disgreements over Iraq had not spoiled relations between France and Britain. His most angry exchanges with Blair, he added, were about agriculture, not Iraq.

Blair has cast himself and his nation as serving as a bridge between Europe and the United States, but Chirac suggested it was impossible.

The French president said that strains between Britain and France were often exaggerated.

"It's very curious this vision of nermanent confrontation. I have no confrontation with the English in general.

or with Blair in particular," The Guardian newspaper quoted Chirac as saying. The relationship, he reportedly said, is "built on competi-

tion, which implies mutual esteem, ... It's a kind of violent love affair.

Interim Army secretary to step aside

Longest-serving stand-in Les Brownlee makes room for new nominee

BY ROBERT BURNS The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - The commemorative coins that Les Brownlee hands to soldiers he visits in the field bear the words "Secretary of the Army (Acting)."

You could say he's a parenthetical secre-tary, the longest-serving stand-in as civilian leader of the Army in its history.

For the past 553 days, since the May 9, 2003, firing of Thomas White as Army secretary, Brownlee has performed the duties of that office, while also serving in the No. 2 job as Army undersecretary.

For several months in 2003, Brownlee wore even a third hat. He filled in as assistant secretary of the Army for civil works after Mike Parker was fired in a budget dispute with the White House.

He says he's enjoyed it all, except the reward he got for his loyalty: getting pushed aside in favor of a defense industry executive,

Francis Harvey, the White House's choice to be the next Army secretary. The Senate is scheduled to debate the Harvey nomination Tuesday, and he is widely expected to win approval despite misgivings by some who think Brownlee got a raw deal.

Brownlee, 65, gave no hint in a recent Associated Press interview that he is bitter about being bypassed, although clearly he and some others are disappointed that he won't get the top job

"A lot of the things he's been asked to do have not been easy, and he was willing to do it in spite of not being given the title," said Gor-don Sullivan, a retired four-star general who was the Army chief of staff in the early 1990s "He did a lot of things very quietly and very effectively.

White brought in Brownlee, then staff director of the Senate Armed Services Committee. as Army undersecretary in November 2001.

The former secretary recently noted the ex-

traordinary period that followed his firing, which was triggered by disagreements with Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld over the shape and pace of the Army's force mod-

"The only saving grace to this circumstance has been the distinguished double-duty service of my friend Les Brownlee," White said last month at a private unveiling of White's of-ficial portrait. That event will not happen for Brownlee, even though he served almost as long as White.
"If there were any justice in this convoluted

process of nomination and confirmation process or nomination and confirmation— and there clearly is not—your picture would hang next to mine as the 19th secretary of the Army," White told Brownlee. Brownlee did not say he would quit his un-

dersecretary post when Harvey is confirmed by the Senate, but he strongly suggested he sees little reason to stay.
"If you've been the head coach, and sudden-

ly they get a new head coach, the old head coach can't hang around," he said.



Acting Army Secretary Les Brown lee testifies before the Senate **Armed Services Committee in** November 2003. Brownlee will step aside soon after the expected

DODDS-Europe sets students up with e-mail accounts

student and teachers

and parents. ??

BY SANDRA JONTZ Stars and Stripes

The Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe has invested in an e-mail system that levels the playing field between pupils who have e-mail accounts and those who don't.

Having students communicate with mom and dad, especially those deployed, was a huge motivation behind the program.
"Unlike most civilian stateside schools

DODDS-E is attuned to the role of schools in deployments," DODDS spokesman Frank O'Gara said. "Teachers receive training to assist kids in dealing with the stress of deployments and to look for signs of dis-

And this is another peg in helping them

cope, he said. For example, a "tremendous" number of narents of Anshach High School students are deployed to Iraq, and the e-mail sys tem will give them a chance to stay linked to their parents, Principal Jennifer Row-land said.

Until Friday's parent-teacher confer-ence, Ansbach had only 25 of its 317 students submit the required parent- or guard-

ian-signed permission slip, she said "I don't know if it was forgetfulness, or what," she said. But post-conference, in-terest shot up to well

over 200, she said.
"At this point, it's brand new and hard to say how it's going, but we anticipate it will be a good re-source for student

and teachers and par-Rowland said. Teachers will have all student e-mail accounts and can e-mail

reminders and other correspondence to the whole class Systemwide, 5,990 of Europe's roughly

45,000 pupils have registered for their own e-mail accounts, said Pat Ridge, the educa-tional technologist for DODDS-Europe Education Division

The school system spent about \$35,000 to buy the commercially available system

through Gaggle mail, and will maintain servers in Frankfurt to provide faster ac-44 We anticipate it will cess than using a commercial system based in the States, be a good resource for

O'Gara said. The reason behind the program is two

fold, Ridge said. First, it lets pupils Jennifer Rowland and teachers readily Ansbach High School communicate principal each other and with

their parents, whether the parents are around the corner at work or home, or deployed miles away in a combat zone. The second reason is to let children take

advantage of online educational curricula, such as distance-learning programs, ad-vanced-placement classes offered at other DODDS schools, mentor programs, or a chance to work on class projects with pupils around the world, Ridge said.

Some high school students also have

confirmation of defense

industry executive Francis Harvey.

begun submitting college entrance packages through the e-mail system.

The e-mail accounts are monitored closely by teachers, and filtering software blocks unsolicited e-mail.commonly called spam; pornographic e-mails; and mail that

might contain offensive words, he said.

The program can be customized to block out e-mails that might contain new phrases pupils might contrive to circumvent the blockers.

The system-blocked e-mails will be redirected to the teachers, who can counsel children on proper use of the system, if necessary.

E-mail Sandra Jontz at: jontzs@stripes.osd.mil

Scouting activities will go on despite Pentagon sponsorship reminder

BY BEN MURRAY Stars and Stripes

Despite a recent reminder from the Pentagon that military bases cannot officially sponsor Boy Scout, Girl Scout and Cub Scout troops, base officials in Europe say that scouting programs will continue.
"We plan to continue our current support to the
Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, which includes such

things as: facilities to conduct regular meetings and recreational activities, and to store supplies, local military telephone service, health care during scouting activities in accordance with applicable service regulations, and space-available use of youth services equipment," said Millie Waters, spokeswoman for the Installation Management Agency-Europe. The Pentagon reminder, announced Monday,

comes as part of a settlement in a lawsuit against the Denartment of Defense and other organizations brought by the American Civil Liberties Union of Il-

Waters said Tuesday that IMA had received the memo from the Pentagon and would be forwarding it to installation and military unit commanders. Wa ters would not provide a copy of the memo to Stars and Strines

The ACLU suit claimed that the government was improperly sponsoring a private group that maintains some religious association.

The Pentagon, however, said it has long had regulations against the sponsorship of nonfederal organizations and believes military units are in compliance with those guidelines, according to The Associated Press. Military regulations do not forbid servicememers from leading scout troops in their free time.
According to Dan Adams, executive director for

the Transatlantic Council of the Boy Scouts of America, about 85 percent to 90 percent of Europe-based scout troops are currently chartered by military organizations. If military organizations are no longer allowed to

sponsor troops, Adams said, the scouts in Europe would face a significant obstacle, but still would be able to provide scouting programs. The scouts, he said, might be able to adapt by shifting their charter organizations from military units to groups of parents or other private organizations.
Currently, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and Cub Scouts

in the Transatlantic Council chapters include about 10,000 members across 26 countries, "from Turkey to Ireland," Adams said.

Lisa Boughton, Cub Scout committee chairwoman for Pack 65 in Darmstadt, Germany, said regardless of who the official benefactor of the scouts becomes, the kids programs will continue

"Scouting will go on." Boughton said.

Marine's wife sentenced in murder conspiracy

PHOENIX — The wife of a Marine who pleaded guilty to conspiring to have her husband killed while he was stationed in Kuwait has been sentenced to more than seven years in prison.

Wendy Glass was sentenced Monday to 87 months in prison and

five years probation.

"Glass, 35, pleaded guilty in the case in June.

She acknowledged an affair with another Marine, Larry Framness, from November 2001 to May 2003, and admitted she and

Framness conspired to kill her husband, James Houston Glass. James Glass and Framness were deployed from Marine Corps Air Station-Yuma and sent to Ali Al Salem Air Base in Kuwait in early 2003. While there, Framness tried to kill Glass with a grenade after luring him to a guard shack, prosecutors said.

James Glass was injured but survived.

Ex-wife sentenced for plotting to kill Marine

SAN DIEGO — The ex-wife of a Marine was sentenced Monday to nearly 11 years in prison for a bungled plot with her lover to kill him to collect life insurance money.

Astrid K. Tepatti, 22, pleaded guilty in August to attempted mur-der, admitting she sneaked into her husband's home on the Camp Pendleton Marine Corps base in January and fired a revolver at

The bullet lodged in the sofa where Sgt. Stephen Tepatti was sleeping. He was unhurt.

Tepatti's lesbian lover, Ebony Wood, admitted making a make-shift silencer from a potato and driving Astrid Tepatti to the base.

Wood, 21, also pleaded guilty to attempted murder, saying she had been promised proceeds from the husband's life insurance poli-cy. She is scheduled to be sentenced in December.

It was not the only effort by the women to kill the Marine, authori-

IN THE STATES



ent Bush, right, looks on as National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice, left, speaks to the press in the Roosevelt Room of the White House on Tuesday, after Bush announced that Rice was his choice as secretary of state.

Bush choses Rice for secretary of state

BY DEB RIECHMANN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - President Bush promoted his most trusted foreign policy adviser to secretary of state on Tuesday, tapping Condoleezza Rice to replace warrior-turned-diplomat Colin Powell as part of a sweeping second-term Cabinet overhaul

"The secretary of state is America's face to the world and in Dr. Rice the world will see the strength, grace and

decency of our country," Bush said of his national security ad-

wiser He thanked Powell, a former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of

Staff and national security adviser, for working "tirelessly and selflessly" on behalf of the country.

Rice is the second White House loyalist to land a Cabinet post since Bush's re-election triggered a top-tier shake-up that has presented several agency heads with the clear impression that their services were no longer needed. White House counsel Alberto Gonzales is Bush's nominee to replace Attorney General John Ash-

Bush named Stephen Hadley, Rice's deputy, to replace her as national security adviser, the top White House-based foreign policv aide.

Rice, who is considered more of a foreign policy hard-liner than Powell has been Rush's national security adviser for four years.

But while she's known around the globe, her image on the world stage does not rival Powell's. The retired four-star general has higher popularity ratings than the

president.

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"Under vour leadership, America is fighting and winning the war on terror," Rice said to her boss during the Roosevelt Room announcement.

If confirmed by the Senate, she would be the first black woman secretary of state. Rice, raised in the segregated

South, is an accomplished pianist and Russian scholar who Bush said was "taught that human dignity is a gift of God and that the

ideals of America would overcome op-

pression." See related Bush asked the Senstories on ate for quick confirma-tion. "The nation

needs her," he said. Besides Powell and Ashcroft, Education Secretary Rod Paige, Agriculture Secretary Ann Venemen and Energy Secretary Spencer Abraham resigned as Bush sought a fresh start for a second term.

Administration officials say Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge and Health and Services Secretary Tommy Thompson may be next. Officials close to Ridge say he may be willing to stay for a few months and advisers to Thompson hint that he may be open to another Cabinet post.

Rice, 50, worked at the National Security Council in former President George H.W. Bush's White House and went on to be provost of Stanford University in California. She was widely considered the president's first choice for the top diplomat's job, despite reports that she intended to return to California or was hoping to replace Donald H. Rumsfeld as defense secretary.

Bush's second-term Cabinet shake-up

The shuffling of President Bush's top advisers continued on Monday with Colin Powell's resignation from the Cabinet, along firmation that three other members would be leaving.

SECRETARY SECRETARY OF ENERGY OF EDUCATION



AGE 52





SECRETARY

OF STATE

67



55

AGRICULTURE

POSSIBLE SUCCESSOR					
Sen. John Breaux, D-La.	Margare ings, Bu domestic adviser				

Margaret Spell ush's tic policy

The White House

Chuck Conner, National security adviser White House Condoleezza farm adviser

Last week's shuffling



Attorney Genera John Ashcroft (left) on Tuesday. President Bush then nominated Alberto Gonzales to replace him.

announced the resignation of

Secretary of Commerce Don Evans last wook A successor has not vet

Past second-term Cabinet alterations

Of more recent two-term presidents, Richard Nixon's second-term Cabinet had the most new faces at nine compared with President Bush's count of six, so far

New Cabinet members for second-term presidents

Harry S. Truman 4 Dwight D. Fisenhower 3 Lyndon Baines Johnson 4 Richard M. Nixon 9 Ronald W. Reagan 7 William J. Clinton 7

SOURCE: Congressional Quarterly's Guide to the Preside

CIA loses two more officials

PELEGER SHRADER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Two more top officials are leaving the CIA. signaling internal instability at the spy agency as CIA Director

Porter Goss gets settled in. The CIA's Deputy Director for Operations Stephen Kappes and his immediate deputy, Michael Sulick, told colleagues Monday morning that they were departing the agency, which was heavily criticized for prewar intelligence lapses in Iraq and the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. It's unclear whether Kappes and Sulick resigned voluntarily or were asked to sten down.

Both men were part of the CIA's Directorate of Operations, or clandestine service, which is responsible for covert operations around the globe.

Last week, the agency's No. 2 official, John McLaughlin, also retired, citing personal reasons.

In a statement, Goss thanked Kappes and Sulick for their work. "The legacy that both officers leave behind them is one of dedication to the covert mission of

this agency." Goss said. A front-runner for Kappes' job the current director of the CIA's counterterrorist center, who cannot be publicly identified because he is undercover, said an intelligence official, also speaking

on condition of anonymity. Current agency officials are not allowed to talk with the media without permission, but have been in touch with former intelligence officials.

Speaking on condition of anonymity former officials described intense friction within the agency with Goss now in charge. And some say there are concerns that more officers at the CIA's counterterrorist center and elsewhere may be asked to resign or told that they no longer have a future at the agency.

"It is very fair to say there is tremendous turmoil in the middle ranks of the clandestine service today," said Vince Cannistraro, former CIA counterterrorism chief. "There may be eight people

pushed out." Cannistraro said there is concern within the agency that Vice President Dick Cheney is ordering changes to avenge leaks to the media indicating there was no connection between former Iraqi President Saddam Hussein and al-Qaida terrorists. A spokesman for Cheney did not return a call seeking comment.

Goss brought with him to the CIA four staff members from the House Intelligence Committee, which he led for nearly eight years ending in August. Since then, Kappes and Sulick have been involved in heated debates - some have described them as feuds - with those senior aides to Goss.

Nev. lawmaker to lead Senate Democrats

BY DAVID ESPO The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Senate Democrats are changing manage ment, their ranks reduced to a 74-year low and their longtime leader defeated for re-election

Sen. Harry Reid, a soft-spoken Nevadan, is moving in as leader of the shrunken minority, while Sen Tom Daschle of South Dako ta moves out after a decade as the party's chief spokesman and strategist on the Senate floor

Reid's ascension was preordained at Tuesday's meeting of Senate Democrats, their ranks smaller by four following the 2 elections. Sen. Dick Durbin of Illinois, in line to succeed Reid as the party's second-ranking Senate leader, was also unopposed.

Reid, 64, takes command of a party that will have only 44 seats when the new Congress convenes in January, fewer than at any time since Herbert Hoover sat in

records on the Senate's Web site.

With the exception of abortion rights and gun control, both of which he opposes, Reid's recent voting record on major issues puts him in the mainstream of Senate Democrats.

"My senators who support me know who I am. No one has to guess where I stand on issues. he said in a recent interview "I'm going to do what I think is

Reid, a veteran of 22 years in Congress, voted against President Bush's tax cuts in 2001 and opposed the final version of the administration's landmark Medicare overhaul legislation in 2003.

Like a majority of Democrats, he voted to give Bush authority to use military force to oust Iraq's Saddam Hussein, and voted many months later to spend \$87 billion to help pay the costs of military actions in Iraq and Afghani-

Earlier this year, he helped bottle up a proposed constitutional

New leader for Senate Dems

Sen. Harry Reid, 64, a Democrat from smalltown Searchlight, Nev., was chosen by colleagues Tuesday to replace Sen. Tom Daschle as Senate minority leader.

Education - B.A., Utah State University, 1961; J.D., George Washington University,

Experience - Lt. Governor, Nevada, 1970; Chairman of the Nevada Gaming Commission, 1977-82; U.S. Representative, 1982-86; U.S. Senator, 1986-present; Senate Minority Whip, 1998-present

amendment to ban gay marriages, and sided with organized labor when it sought to make sure no worker lost overtime rights under new administration

He's also worked with environmentalists to block oil drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Ref-

regulations.

He's been a loyal supporter of Democratic filibusters against 10 of Bush's judicial nominees deemed extremists by a coalition of civil rights, women's and other groups.

An early test of Reid's strategy is likely to come on judicial ap-pointments, and already, there is some pressure on him to stay the course set by Daschle

"I would think that Sen. Reid and a number of Democratic senators and honefully some moderate Republicans this time would continue that strategy," said Ralph Neas, head of People for the American Way, which worked to block several of Bush's appointments to the courts.

Reid has given little or no public indication of his intentions, saying he wanted to wait until he had been elected to replace Daschle as Democratic leader. Daschle was defeated in his bid for a fourth term.

While Democrats lost seats this fall, they have more than the 41 votes needed to block Bush's legislation or his judicial appointments if they remain united. At the same time, some Democrats have said their party will have to pick its fights more carefully.

On the home front, Reid is a

fierce opponent of the effort to build a repository for nuclear waste at Yucca Mountain in his home state, and has used his seat on the Appropriations Committee to battle the administration



Members of the uniformed division of the Secret Service guard FBI informant Mohamed Alanssi, who set himself on fire outside the White House fence on Monday.

FBI informant sets himself afire in front of White House

Second man jumps security fence in unrelated act

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - A man who set himself afire near the White House was upset with the way he was being treated as an FBI informant, specifically complaining to The Washington Post about his inability to return to Yemen to visit his ill wife Mohamed Alanssi, 52, arrived at the White House gate just before 2 p.m. Mon-

day with a letter addressed to President Bush. After talking briefly with uniformed Secret Service officers, he pulled a lighter from his pocket and set his clothing ablaze Although the officers, who had been

alerted by the Post, acted quickly to extinguish the flames, emergency medical technicians said he suffered burns on his hands, neck and face.

In an unrelated incident, a different man jumped the fence on the north side of the White House grounds. Officers of

the Secret Service's uniformed division apprehended the man shortly after 5 p.m., officials said. That incident is also under investigation.

Alanssi was taken to Washington Hospital Center for treatment of non-life-threatening injuries.

The Post reported that Alanssi, who also used the name Mohamed Alhadrami, had informed the newspaper of his plans early Monday. He told The Post by fax and telephone that he was "going to burn my body at unexpected place." He also faxed a letter to an FBI agent in New York who has had contact with him, the Post reported.

The paper said it alerted the New York agent about its contact with Alanssi and subsequently informed District of Columbia police when it learned from the man that he planned to set himself on fire outside the White House

Congress urged to investigate scandals in insurance industry

BY DEVLIN BARRETT The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Congress should dig deeper into the burgeoning scandal within the insurance industry, a top investigator said Tuesday, claiming lawmakers will find a "Pandora's box" of unethical conduct.

New York Attorney General Eliot Spitzer, who recently launched an investigation of major insurance brokerages and accused one of the biggest of bid rigging and price fixing, told the Senate Govern-mental Affairs Committee that more revelations about bad practices are coming.

The scandal has led already high-level resignations, employee layoffs and guilty pleas by some executives. "There have been criminal pleas en-tered, there will be more criminal pleas en-

tered very shortly," Spitzer said.

Connecticut Attorney General Richard

Blumenthal told the committee that taxpayers may have paid excessive charges for property casualty, health and work-men's compensation insurance that municipalities in his state felt powerless to chal-

Blumenthal is insisting that state insur-ance laws, including Connecticut's, should be "reinvigorated and reinvented" to comhat fraud illegal steering and hid-rigging He said any changes in federal regulations should not weaken the historic role of states in regulating the industry.

Insurance companies are supporting legislation that they say would create uni-form, nationwide standards for the industry. State officials have expressed fears that whatever Congress writes will preempt and may be weaker than state regulation Spitzer, who has also conducted high-profile probes of Wall Street investment firms and mutual fund companies, said Congress needs to take a harder look at the insurance industry.

Ga. crematory operator who scammed families likely to plead guilty, DA says

BY HARRY R. WEBER The Associated Press

ATLANTA - A former crematory operator accused of dumping 334 bodies on his property and passing off cement dust as ashes has agreed to plead guilty to criminal charges in the case, the prosecutor's office said in a letter sent to victims' families.

The letter dated Nov. 10 does not give de

tails of the plea agreement, but a source with knowledge of the deal told The Associated Press on Tuesday that Ray Brent Marsh will be sentenced to 12 years in prison with credit for the roughly seven months he has already served while await-

The sentence, which covers all 787 crimi-nal charges against Marsh, will be followed by a lengthy probation period, said the source, who spoke on condition of ano-nymity. The source would not elaborate.

A court hearing to discuss the deal has Walker County District Attorney Her-

bert E. Franklin, whose office sent the letter, and defense lawyer Ken Poston declined to comment.

A judge must approve any deal worked out by the two sides.

Leanne Dolin, a clerk to Judge James Bodiford, who has been overseeing the case, refused to comment.

Marsh allegedly stopped performing cremations at the Tri-State Crematory in Noble in 1997, when he took over the family business from his father. In 2002, hundreds of decomposing corpses were found stacked in storage sheds and scattered in woods outside the crematory in rural northwest Georgia. The crematory served funeral homes from Georgia, Tennessee and Alahama

Crash victim returns home

BY GENE JOHNSON The Associated Press

SEATTLE - Laura Hatch remembers only praying and trying to break free from her car after it crashed down a ravine, leaving her severely injured and trapped for eight days.

Since returning home, she's been spending most of her time sleeping, talking with her twin sister and - like any teen concerned about her appearance avoiding all but her closest friends.

The 17-year-old, who recently underwent complex reconstructive surgery, was expected to make a full recovery within months, her doctors said at a news conference Monday. She. however, did not speak publicly.

Teen spent 8 days trapped in car

"She's done beautifully. She's going to lead a normal life," said Dr. Richard Ellenbogen, a neurosurgeon at Children's Hospital in Seattle, "She's as beautiful inside as she's going to be outside

For eight days, no one knew where the teenager was following the Oct. 2 accident. She crashed her car 200 feet down a ravine after leaving a party in the east Se-attle suburb of Redmond, where her family lives.

Relatives searched repeatedly. Sheriff's deputies figured her for a runaway. Finally, a family friend, who said she was guided by vivid dreams, drove with her own daughter to the crash area and spotted the car.

Hatch was dehydrated, and her right eye socket, cheekbone and nose were crushed. Laura's father, Todd Hatch,

said that she has no recollection of the accident or how it hap-pened. He said she may have been drinking — there was underage drinking at the party — but "she seems incapable of telling

lieved it was still the same day as the accident, he said. All she recalls of her first 10 days in a hospital is an IV being removed from

Once her body heals, doctors say, Hatch will be able to do everything she'd done before, in-cluding playing soccer.

Laura Hatch's father, Todd, center, and twin sister, Amy, left, smile as Dr. Richard Ellenbgen describes Laura's recovery at Children's Hospital in Seattle on Monday. Laura spent eight days trapped in a car without food or water in early October.

Shark protections proposed

NEW ORLEANS - The U.S. government on Monday proposed broad international measures to curb the slaughter of sharks in the Atlantic Ocean and encourage the study and preservation threatened shark populations throughout the world.

The proposals include a ban on the practice known as shark finning, reduction of the number of fishing vessels that hunt sharks, collection of more data on shark populations and development of fishing nets that would not

DNA profiles delayed

WASHINGTON - Thousands of DNA profiles in unsolved criminal cases experience long delays before they are added to a national FBI data base, jeopardizing their value in identifying suspected murderers, rapists and others, according to a Justice Department report Monday.

The report by Glenn A. Fine, the Justice Department's inspector general, identified more than 2,500 completed DNA profiles in unsolved cases that had not been added by state and local crime labs to the FBI's Combined DNA Index System in a timely fashion

Teen birth rate declines

ATLANTA - The birth rate among American girls ages 10 to 14 has fallen to its lowest level since 1946, the government reported Monday.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said the number of births among girls in this age group dropped 38 percent from 1994 to 2002 alone. even though the number of girls 10 to 14 climbed 16 percent during the same

The researchers attributed the decline to sex education.

Pfizer ordered to pull ads

WASHINGTON - The Food and Drug Administration ordered Pfizer Inc. to yank cheeky television ads that promised better sex for men taking Viagra because the ads failed to disclose known risks associated with the drug, according to a letter released Monday.

"Remember that guy who used to be called 'Wild Thing?" the ads say as a middle-aged couple look in the window of a lingerie store. Later, blue horns sprout from the frisky man's head with the words "He's back." The horns morph into the letter "V" of Viagra. From The Associated Press



Londonderry, N.H., senior Blake Douglass. 17. submitted this photo to his high school yearbook. Douglass has filed a lawsuit against the school officials who rejected it.

High school student sues over pose in senior photo

BY BEVERLEY WANG

The Associated Press

CONCORD, N.H. - Where other students might pose for their senior yearbook photo with tennis rackets or favorite cars, Blake Douglass wants to be seen with his shotgun.

The 17-year-old senior filed a federal wsuit to force Londonderry High School to allow the photo and give up the policy school officials used to reject it.

"What they're doing is basically discriminating based on content or message," said Penny Dean, Douglass' lawyer and a spe-cialist in gun cases. "You can't do that. You might want to but you can't — and especial-ly you can't with a broad policy like this."

We want the picture in the vearbook." said Dean said after filing the lawsuit Monday in U.S. District Court

The lawsuit seeks a temporary injunction so the picture can appear in the vearbook and a permanent injunction against the "pick-and-choose policy" of what photographs are published, Dean said.

The lawsuit names the Londonderry school board members, high school principal, school superintendent, town manager and school officials involved in the production of the yearbook An avid hunter and trap and skeet shoot-

er, Douglass said he decided long ago on his senior photo — an outdoor shot in a sportsman's pose, wearing a shooting vest and holding his shotgun over his shoulder.

"He would look at his vearbooks since he's been a freshman and say, 'I can't wait until I'm a senior — this is how I want my senior picture done," said his mother, Kathy Douglass.

Blake Douglass said seniors in previous classes have posed with musical instruments, dogs, inline skates and a Ford Mus-

"Those were their hobbies and I just want to put my hobby in," he said. "I don't see it as a threat.

School officials said the photo lacks con-

text in the yearbook's seniors section. They offered to publish it in a separate "community sports" section, but Douglass refused.

Principal James Elefante said that although the photo isn't threatening, "I still stand by that holding a saxophone is different from holding a shotgun.

British makers of vaccine ask for inspection By DIEDTRA HENDERSON New methods may help prepare for bird flu pandemic The Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Chiron Corp. has asked British regulators to inspect its facili-ty producing an experimental bird flu vaccine to make sure it doesn't run into the same contamination problems that forced the closing of another plant and a flu shot crisis in the United States, a top U.S. health official said Monday.

The company was to have supplied half of the nation's flu vaccine this year. Its in-ability to do so was an issue in the presidential campaign, prompted government inves-tigations, sparked a congressional inquiry and raised concerns about its production of the experimental bird flu vaccine.

The inspection of its second Liverpool facility, where 10,000 doses of bird flu vaccine are being produced for use in clinical trials, is expected to occur before Christ-

"They asked to be inspected," said Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the national In-stitute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

Asked whether U.S. officials would more aggressively inspect the plant, Fauci said, "I can't speak for the FDA." the Food and Drug Administration. Chiron is one of two companies produc-

ing experimental bird flu vaccine. Aventis Pasteur also has received a federal contract to produce 8,000 pilot lots. More importantly, Aventis scored a government contract to produce 2 million doses of vaccine to treat the strain of bird flu blamed for killing 32 of the 44 humans infected in Thailand and Vietnam this year.

The preparations come in anticipation of the next flu pandemic.

Fauci told reporters on Monday that researchers don't expect that dire predicament this year. The bird flu, while lethal, has not proven agile in leaping from human to human. But a pandemic will eventually strike this nation, he said. "We're due for it," he said.

His comments came during a wide-rang-National Institutes of Health round-table on new developments in influenza research

Scientists are working on such know-how as developing a vaccine that would give long-term flu protection, eliminating the need for annual shots, and speedier ways to produce flu vaccine

In addition, the government will try to predict the influenza virus's next moves by sequencing genomes for thousands of known human and bird flu viruses, a project that could help researchers understand how the flu constantly evolves.

Around the globe, the flu kills up to 500,000 people each year.

In the United States, the death toll in a typical year is 36,000, with 200,000 suffering severe enough infections to be hospital-

Rapper Snoop Dogg, center, watches from the stage Monday after a fight broke out in the audience at the second annual Vibe Awards at Barker Hangar in Santa Monica, Calif. Snoop **Dogg and Quincy** Jones were presenting a special "Vibe Legend Award" to hip-hop producer/performer Dr. Dre from the stage when the fight started.



Fight breaks out at the Vibe awards

SANTA MONICA, Calif. - A fight broke out near the stage at the Vibe awards ceremony as rapper Snoop Dogg and producer Quincy Jones were preparing to honor Dr. Dre, and one person was stabbed, authorities and witnesses said.

Dozens of people sitting near the stage Monday inside a hangar at the Santa Monica airport began shoving each other as the show wound down about 7:30 p.m. News video showed chairs being thrown, punches flying, people chasing one another and some being restrained.

It was unclear if the stabbing preceded or followed the fight.

The victim, a 26-year-old man, was taken to a hospital and was listed in stable condition.

No arrests were made. Witness Frank Williams said Dr. Dre was involved in the brawl.

"I saw Dr. Dre fighting somebody." Williams told KCAL-TV. "I don't know if he was fighting back. But there was a guy taken out basically bloodied.'

The Los Angeles Times, citing an unnamed associate of Dr. Dre, said the melee broke out as the acclaimed hin-hon producer was sitting at a front-row table waiting to receive the Vibe Legend Award. A man walked up to Dr. Dre's table and punched him, and Dr. Dre's bodyguards went after the man, the associate said.

Dr. Dre, who was scheduled to receive a the award for his lifetime contributions to hip-hop, had not come on stage yet when the fight erupted. Jones and Snoop Dogg stood on stage without saying any-

"My understanding is that it was somewhat chaotic in there," police Lt. Frank Fabrega said in a press conference following the fight.

Andrea Ferguson, employed by a public relations firm that worked with Vibe for the second annual awards ceremony, called the incident a "disruption but declined to provide details. She added the show was allowed to continue but it was halted for about

About 1,000 people attended the event; some scurried for the exits when the melee began. The show was taped Monday and was expected to be broadcast Tuesday

"It's really important that we don't take a negative incident like this and do away with the awards, Suge Knight told reporters.

Dr. Dre, Snoop Dogg and the late Tupac Shakur were among the artists signed to Knight's Death Row Records during its height in the early 1990s. After leaving the label, Dr. Dre started the highly successful Aftermath Records, which has signed stars including Eminem.

When Knight was released in 2001 from a five-year prison term for assault and weapons violations. Dr. Dre obtained a court order to keep Knight from him, The Times said. It was whether the order remained in effect Monday

Vibe magazine focuses on urban culture and enter tainment. The awards are voted on by music journal ists and "regional tastemakers." R&B singer Usher led the awards with five nominations, followed by Alicia Kevs, who has four nominations,



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Usher, OutKast win big at AMA

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES - Usher's year of astonishing success with the chart-topping, best-selling album "Confessions" culminated with a clutch of trophies at the 32nd annual American Music Awards.

The suave 26-year-old singer

was honored Sun day with a leading four trophies, including favorite male soul-R&B artist, best pop-rock album, best pop-rock artist and best soul-R&R album

"Thank you for

moment. Thank you for this year," said Usher, whose album sold more than 1 million copies in its debut week. "It's been amazing." Sunday's win underscores a host of awards Hisher has received this year, positioning him to Above: Usher holds his four

be a formidable factor in upcom-Grammy Award nominations. It also was a

good night for rap funksters Kast, who brought home awards for favorite pop-rock band and favorite rap-hip-hop album "Speakerboxxx/The Love Below." They also won hest rap-hip-hop group. Still, not every-

one left happy. Innovative rap newcomer Kanye West was shut out in all of his three nominations, including best new artist, which went to country singer Gretchen Wilson

"I feel I was definitely robbed. I was the best new artist this year," West said backstage. "I don't know if I'll be back at this award show next year.'

The ceremonies came as the rap world mourned O.D.B., the founding member of the Wu-Tang Clan who collapsed and died Saturday at a New York recording studio, two days before his 36th birthday. In acceptance remarks, OutKast's Big Boi paid tribute briefly to the late rapper. "Rest in peace, Ol' Dirty Bastard," Big Boi said. "We love VOII.

The ABC telecast from the

Shrine Auditorium was heavy on performances, some of them censored, although host Jimmy Kimmel and a few presenters got away with racy material.

Gwen Stefani, working without the band No Doubt, opened the show with "What You Waiting For?" and Lenny Kravitz followed with "Lady."

Usher performed "My Boo"

with soul diva Alicia Keys, who won favorite female artist in the soul-R&B category, edging out Janet Jackson and Beyonce.

Brooks & Dunn earned their fourth award for favorite country band, Toby Keith won favorite country male artist and best country album for "Shock-

'n Y'All.' Sheryl Crow won over Avril Lavigne and Jessica Simpson for favorite female pop-rock artist

and also received the prize for adult contemporary art-Rockers ist Linkin Park were favorite alternative music artist for the second

vear in a row. ist, and the group MercyMe won best contempo-rary inspirational

American Music Awards

received two awards.

backstage Sunday at the 32nd

annual American Music Awards

at the Shrine Auditorium in Los

Angeles. Below: Sheryl Crow

In awards announced before the telecast, rapper Jay-Z won favorite male artist the rap-hip-hop category. Marc Anthony won favorite Latin music art-

artist. Kimmel poked fun at everything from pop music's lip-syncing prob-

1em to 40-year-old clip of the Beatles, but his favorite target was Anna Nicole Smith after she appeared at turns disoriented and manic while introducing a song by West.

"I still think the best performance of the night was Anna Nicole Smith, I told her to stay away from Snoop Dogg's brownies," Kimmel quipped, referring to a show skit where the rapper and troubled singer Bobby Brown pretended to be selling \$100 brownies.

Nominees for the American Music Awards were chosen on the basis of record sales, with winners selected by a survey of about 20.000 listeners.

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GIs seeking tour viewed with respect

was halfway through a long day of work at the Multinational Forces, Iraq, headquarters on Camp Victo ry in Baghdad when five scraggly looking U.S. Army soldiers came walking up to "my" palace.

I passed them as I made my way for the front door and they said. "Excuse me. sir, how do we get into this place?"

I could tell they were the guys who real ly work for a living. None of them had changed their uniforms in a couple of days because of the demands of being on the road. They didn't smell the best, but who really smells good in Iraq?

I think the oldest one in the group was probably 22 and they had "the look" of the soldiers who have been in downtown Baghdad when the going was at its toughest.

They had just come in from the field and were resting before heading back out and they wanted to tour the palace that Saddam Hussein had once used as his hunting-and-fishing getaway. I was really busy pushing papers and initially I tried hard to brush off their question so I could get back to the office. I thought about it as I hurried by and I realized that my priorities were in the wrong place. My next meeting wasn't for a half

started showing them around.

Their eyes lit up with every new room we entered. They took a bunch of pictures of themselves in Saddam's throne, and they wanted a group picture in front of the huge chandelier in the middle of the rotunda. I was having the time of my life watching their reaction to the place I get to work in every day.

We went up on the roof so they could check out the view. We walked around for a while and I pointed out downtown Baghdad and the surrounding area — like an "expert." We went around to the other side of the roof and I pointed out the fires that are burning in Fallujah from days of house-to-house, unimaginable fighting and horror.

Without even meaning to, they put this lieutenant in his place when one of them said "Yes, sir, that sure is Fallujah. We have been there for the last three days in the middle of the fight. That bridge that's on fire is the ... and that one over there is

It turns out these five guvs are a "gun truck" crew that escorts fuel trucks to the middle of the combat zone. In short, it's their job to drive a Humvee with a .50-caliber on top at the front of convoys. They spend their day looking out for peo-

ple who want to kill them with rocket-propelled grenades, hand grenades, rockets, roadside bombs, car bombs, machine guns, and other assorted deadly weapons that have claimed the lives of more than a thousand of our fighting men and women since the start of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Their Humvee has been destroyed in an attack once. The vehicle they are driving now has "tank guts" on it from an attack a few days ago, they

If that's not enough, the fuel trucks they escort are in and of themselves giant rolling bombs. They've been doing this job every day for nine months and they've got three months left before they return home

I've given the same tour to generals and colonels on many occasions and they are always thankful and appreciative. This time, it was my pleasure, however, to spend some time with these five young enlisted soldiers who nut their lives on a thin, thin line every day for a war they probably don't even fully understand. All they know is that they love their country and what she stands for and I'm proud to have shaken their hands before they went back to work Tonight, they head back to Fallujah for

another day at the office.

1st Lt. Billy Pope is serving with the Air Force in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom in Bagi

Dollar must have yen to improve vs. euro

Los Angeles Times

all Street has rallied since George W. Bush painted the country red, led by the stocks of defense contractors, pharmaceutical companies and insurance peddlers that expect to benefit from four more

years. But Bush hasn't fared so well in what we might call - with a nod to the vanquished Sen John Kerry — the glo-bal test. In what amounts to a vote of no confidence in the U.S. economy, the against the euro and

the ven on fears that a second Bush administration will continue to do to the nation what the first did hobble it with a lot more debt.

The weak dollar reflects growing concerns that Washington is unwilling or unable to get its books in order. Foreign investors also worry that the president and Congress will bend in the face of growing protectionist pressure from apparel companies furniture makers and other industries being pummeled by cheaper foreign goods. Anything that hurts confidence in this country's economy would be bad news, because the United States is increas-

ingly dependent on foreign investment The administration blithely maintains that it wants a strong dollar and that the U.S. economy will grow itself out of any problems. Future growth, the rosy story

line suggests, will drive new tax reve-The weak dollar nue, even as American companies make reflects growing goods so attractive that foreigners can't

The last week did bring good news on that front, with September's trade deficit coming in slightly lower (\$51.6 billion)

than had been predicted. The Federal Reserve also nudged up interest rates, though they still will have to be raised further to stem the erosion of the greenback's value. [Last] Wednesday, the dollar slipped to a new all-time low against the

The world's central banks clearly are feeling political pressure to intervene on the increasingly touchy subject of whether exchange rates reflect economic realities Regardless of that debate, the dollar will remain hamstrung by the administration's refusal to raise taxes or cut spending. The danger is that in order to continue attracting foreigners' money, the day will come when the Fed will have to respond to a weak dollar and widening federal and trade deficits by raising interest rates more abruptly than otherwise prudent. After all, the buck has to stop some-

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Doonesbury





concerns that

Washington is

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get its books in order.





OPINION

Bush, Hu bring much baggage to meeting

xpect smiles all around when President Bush meets Chinese leader Hu Jintao later this week in Chile at the annual sum mit of Asian

Daniel Sneider



relations under Bush had a rocky fom ago Chinese aircraft forced the landing of an plane

Pacific lead-

But those tensions have largely faded in favor of partnership on a range of issues, from terrorism to North Korea's

nuclear program. "Now," a senior Asian diplomat told me, "Beijing feels comfortable

with the Bush team. While Beijing's comfort level has increased, however, the Chinese leadership is uneasy over the muscular unilateralism of American policy under Bush.

Those fears are mirrored in Washington. Worries about China's rise as a great power were subordinated in the aftermath of Sept. 11, 2001. But they have not gone

beneath the smiles opened up just before the U.S. election. A few days before the vote, the English-language China Daily published an unusually frank critique of the U.S. role in the world, penned by China's elder states-

man, Qian Qichen. Qian portrayed the United States as an empire off course. eager to use force, overstretched, arrogant and headed for demise

The United States he wrote is using its anti-terror campaign to tighten control over the Middle East, Central Asia, Southeast and Northeast Asia. These moves "have made it obvious that the United States has not changed its Cold War mentality and that the country is still accustomed to applying military means to deal with various threats, visible or invisi-

The document made its way to the White House, where it was read as an indirect endorsement and anticipation of the victory of Sen. John Kerry. President Bush was enraged, according to a senior administration official. Secretary of State Colin Powell called in the Chinese ambassador to formally complain.

The status of the author suggested that "this was not a case of one person making a bad call," the official told me. Qian is the architect of China's foreign policy from the late 1980s through 2002, when he retired as vice premier. He remains a powerful influence, a man who has direct access to American and Chinese leaders

Chinese officials told the Bush administration that the timing of the publication of the article was unintended. According to Chinese sources active in reform circles of ruling Communist Party, Oian's article was first published on Oct. 18 in Study Weekly, a maga-zine for training high-level party cadres. A week later it appeared on major Chinese-language Web sites. Then China Daily, a government paper aimed at a foreign audi-

ence, published it.

My Chinese party sources accuse the Americans of being "too sensitive" to criticism. The Europeans have been much more critical of Bush policy than China, one told me. Americans need to understand that China is a more pluralized society where all sorts of opinions are expressed. After all, he points out, in democracies such as India and South Korea, "there are many voices against America's unilateralism and the war in Iraq

But some U.S. officials see Qian's views reflected in quiet efforts to expand Chinese influence and to counter American dominance. "They are getting a lot of traction in Asia and in certain Eu-



ropean circles where there is broad and wide ambivalence about the U.S. now," the senior official

an example, the Chinese rushed in to embrace the Philip. pines after that U.S. ally decided to vithdraw its forces from Iraq Among other things, they proposed an intelligence-sharing relationship between the Chinese Peoples Liberation Army and the Philippine military, an alarmed U.S. officials.

When Hu meets Bush, the talk is likely to center more on Taiwan where China wants the United States to crush the pro-independence ambitions of Taiwanese leader Chen Shui-bian. Terrorism and trade issues will no doubt be discussed as well. But as is often the case in this complex relationship, if you want to know what is going you need to look beneath the smiles.

Internal squabbles limit CIA's ability to improve

WASHINGTON he CIA is an unmitigated mess. That's just a fact. It saw weapons of mass destruction where there weren't any. It failed to warn domestic agencies, namely the FBI, about sus-

picious figures who ultimately were involved Dan Thomasson

in 9/11. Its resources in the Arab-speaking world where they were needed the most have been so bad it never has been able to pinpoint the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden. It believed that Iraqi citizens would welcome Americans with open arms. Can anyone spell insurgency and Falluiah?

Now, at the most crucial time since the end of the Cuban missile crisis, its mission is being further eroded and disrupted by an all-out squabble in the Directorate of Operations, the tail that wags the much larger dog The warfare, according to reports, stems from unhanniness of Directorate of Operations veterans over changes being made by former Rep. Porter Goss, R-Fla., who suc ceeded George Tenet as overall agency chief. Resignations have come from the deputy director and probably will from other top personnel. Morale is said to be declining

Well, the morale of Americans isn't much better when considering that this and the often-incompetent FBI are the lead agencies in keeping the barbarians' bombs away from

Is it any wonder then that there is growing support for tearing up things and beginning again — which Congress, in effect, has taken a step toward in pending legislation that would create a new overall central intelligence director with budgetary authority over the activities of both the CIA and the

FBI? The next move logically would be to create a brand new agency modeled after Britain's MI5 with both domestic and foreign intelligence responsibilities, although that will be some time off.

The latest CIA problem is one that President Bush probably inadvertently brought about with his appointment of Goss. A one-time employee of the agency and chairman of the House committee on intelligence, Goss seemed a good choice despite complaints of partisanship. He may understand agency needs, but apparently he has trouble making changes without causing chaos, if that isn't too harsh a word. He reportedly is relying on personnel, some with CIA back-grounds, who came with him from Capitol Hill and who have ruffled the feathers of agency veterans.

Goss, meanwhile, has refused to listen personally to complaints or advice, if these sto ries are accurate. Ironically, Louis Freeh made the same mistake when he took over the FBI. He brought with him a cadre of outsiders who angered bureau veterans, and he ended up being considered by many the worst of the bureau's directors since the death of J. Edgar Hoover. have thought an elected official with Goss's experience would have understood the political subtleties needed in handling the longtime operatives.

No matter who is to blame for this nonsense, which includes damaging leaks to the press, James Woolsey, a former CIA director appearing on television on Sunday, was correct in his assessment that the agency needs to put it aside and go on with the business of trying to protect the nation from another terrorist disaster. Americans should be outraged at even the suggestion that per-sonnel matters and personality disputes and power struggles are being put above their afety. As their supreme representative, Bush needs to intervene.

Over the decades the CIA has been as-

saulted by any number of reformers who seemed to cling to the notion that gentlemen don't read other gentlemen's mail. That silly stance, of course, was put to rest once and

for all by 9/11. The super-clean concept of national intelligence gathering was first propounded and then imposed on the agency by the misguided former Sen. Frank Church of Idaho, Church's Senate hearings ultimately resulted in demonizing the CIA and virtually destroying human resources in favor of satellite surveillance in key areas like the Middle East. It has no place in today's realities.

If the agency is to convince Americans that it is populated with mature men and women and not boys and girls playing spy, its top personnel must end the internal con-flict. If Goss can't bring this about in an orderly fashion, the man who appointed him should look for someone who can. Perhaps better vet, it may be time to really reform the way we gather intelligence. In some ways, the House- and Senate-passed bills to establish a new intelligence directorate being considered by a conference commit-tee are a start, but the current strife inside the agency indicates much more is needed. Dan Thomasson is former editor of the Scripps Howard News Service.

Mallard Fillmore

BY BRUCE TINSLEY HOW TO WE GET OUT DON'T CAPE IF WE COULD SAY IN OUR OF REPORTING THAT JOHN KERRY WAS H WAS A TOP STORY "DREAM SEQUENCE HS NOT NAH ... OVERUSED. PRÉESIDENT-TRUE ... ELECT ELECT FOR PARALLEL WE'PE KERRY SAID THE PAST UNIVERSE" STICKING NAH ... WEEKS? Too trite

IN THE WORLD

India to reduce troops

NEW DELHI - India will begin withdrawing Wednesday some of its troops from the dis-puted region of Kashmir, a local television station report

The first phase of the roll-back, aimed at boosting peace talks with rival Pakistan, has been timed to coincide with Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's visit to India's Jammu-Kashmir state, AajTak television reported.

The Cabinet Committee on Security — India's top deci-sion-making body on security issues — followed up Tuesday on Singh's order last week to cut troop levels in the Indian-controlled portion of Kashmir the

Macedonia crisis

SKOPJE, Macedonia -Prime Minister Hari Kostov's resignation has fueled a politi-cal crisis in Macedonia, where ethnic tensions already are running high, an opposition leader said Tuesday.

Kostov announced Monday that he would step down, citing disagreements with his government's ethnic Albanian coalition partners. Parliament, which meets Thursday, must approve his resignation

On Monday, Kostov, who be came prime minister in May, said he felt he had no real au-thority over ethnic Albanian ministers in the coalition gov-ernment. He accused the Alba-nian Union for Integration Party — which led the rebellion in 2001 — of promoting parti-san interests, nepotism and cor-

Iran nuclear deal

TEHRAN, Iran- Iranian hard-liners on Tuesday criti-cized a nuclear deal reached with European nations, saving Iran gained nothing in return for suspending the nuclear enrichment process. Lawmakers summoned Has

san Rowhani, the top nuclear negotiator, to a closed session of the parliament to question him over the agreement, announced Monday.

The agreement, detailed Monday by Iran and in a report by the International Atomic Energy Agency, commits Iran to suspend all uranium enrich-ment and related activities with-In return, Europe suggested

it would help Iran develop peaceful nuclear energy.

Protest anniversary

ATHENS, Greece - Police began taking up positions around Athens on Tuesday, a day before the anniversary of a 1973 student revolt and annual protest march to the U.S. embassy which in the past has been marred by violence.

More than 6,000 police offic-rs will provide security, with 1,000 more standing by in case violence erupts. Wednesday's rally march will mark the 31st anniversary

of the student uprising which helped bring down a 1967-74 military dictatorship, which had received support from the United States

From The Associated Press

Powell praised by world leaders

BY JOSEPH COLEMAN The Associated Press

TOKYO - World leaders lavished praise on Colin Powell as he stepped down as U.S. secretary of state, hailing his efforts to build international consensus and pledging to work closely with his re placement.



The outpouring re-flected Powell's standing as a bal-anced, multilateralist force in a U.S. adminis-

tration that ularly in Europe and China regarded as too willing to act

on its own

"Mr. Powell showed his understanding of our country, and made so many efforts to promote friendship," Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said Tuesday. "I'd like to express my heartfelt respect for his efforts and achieve-

President Bush's most trusted foreign policy adviser. Condoleezza Rice, was tapped to replace Pow ell, a senior U.S. administration official said

Koizumi, a steadfast supporter Washington's policy in Iraq, said that "whoever takes over the position, the importance of the U.S.-Japan relationship will not

Chinese Foreign Minister Li Zha-oxing called Powell "a good friend" in comments to Hong Kong reporters on the sidelines of Chinese President Hu Jintao's visit to Brazil. He added that the change in personnel would not change relations with Washington

The expressions of respect for

Global community has mixed feelings over Rice becoming secretary of state

BY JOHN LEICESTER The Associated Press

PARIS - In Europe, it's hard for some to think of Condoleezza Rice — Colin Powell's replacement as U.S. secretary of state — without recalling the low points in trans-Atlantic relations that grew out of the war in Iraq.

After all, it was Rice who raised eyebrows last year with her Machiavellian suggestions for how Washington should treat European opponents of the U.S.-led invasion.

"Punish France, ignore Germany and forgive Russia," Rice was widely quoted as telling associates in the spring of 2003.

Trans-Atlantic ties have since improved to some extent. But Rice's reputation still precedes her.

"Condie Rice is a woman with character, that's the least we can say," French Foreign Minister Michel Barnier said Tuesday of President Bush's

trusted national security adviser.

Many in Europe, Asia and the Middle East believed Rice will add a more conservative, hawkish bent to U.S. diplomacy after Powell.

voice in a Cabinet of hawks. One immediate issue she will face is the Mideast peace process following the death of Yasser Arafat.

Palestinians said the new Bush administration must put more energy into the quest for

Israel warmly welcomed Rice's naming to the post, with Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan Shalom saving: "She is a true friend to Israel. Her friendship toward Israel is very deep and stems from religious feelings and deep faith.

seen by many as a moderating

Powell were similarly warm else where, among those who support the U.S. operation in Iraq and those who are opposed.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, who worked together with Powell on the Iraq war, said the former general had made the transition "from being a great soldier to being a great statesman and dip-

In France, an ally whose ties with America were badly strained over Iraq, Foreign Minister Michier praised Powell's skills as a diplomat - matching the feelings of many French that the American made the argument for war in Iraq while privately agreeing with

Barnier became foreign minister in March, replacing Dominique de Villepin — the main face of France's opposition to the Iraq

"Colin Powell was never arro gant," Barnier said, adding that Powell always worked to advance the questions that preoccupy us

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, a critic of the U.S. invasion, also called Powell a "good friend and said he spoke to him after the announcement of his resignation and wished him well

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, who was visiting New York, told reporters that Powell Germany well because of the years he spent there in the U.S. mil-itary and said the government had an "excellent" and "friendly" relationship with him.

In the Mideast, officials praised
Powell as "fair," "dignified" and a

"voice of moderation" in an administration many Arabs see as heavy-handed at best.

Many in the region are angry

over the U.S.-led invasion of Iraq and Bush's failure to make progress toward peace between alestinians and Israelis. Palestinian leaders said they

hoped Powell's resignation would not dampen Bush's commitment to working for peace between their people and Israel. We really do hope that in Presi-

dent Bush's second term every effort will be exacted in order to realize President Bush's vision of a two-state solution on the ground," Palestinian Cabinet Minister Saeb Erekat said Israeli Foreign Minister Silvan

Shalom, who met Powell on Monday, told him that "you are a very good friend of Israel, but more than that, you are a very good friend of peace It's a big loss for me personally. It's a big loss for the state of Israel and it's a big loss for peace in the Middle East."

Britain plans smoking ban in most public spots



London's Covent Garden on Tuesday. Smoking will be banned in most public places in England, including restaurants and any pub or bar that serves food, the government announced Tuesday.

BY BETH GARDINER The Associated Press

LONDON - Four hundred years after King James I denounced tobacco as "loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs, the British government announced plans Tuesday to ban smoking in most public places, including restaurants and any pub that serves food

Anti-smoking activists declared a partial victory, criticizing Health Secretary John Reid for letting smokers continue lighting up in some pubs and bars.

Nonetheless, it's a big step for a country that's had a long love-hate affair with tobacco. Britain's smoky pubs are at the heart of the nation's social life, and the trend in recent years toward "gastropubs" that serve meals as well as hooze means the proposed ban will affect many drinking establish-

Reid said only 20 percent of pubs and bars would be exempt from the ban, which would only apply in England, because they serve no food. Private social clubs are also exempt.

approved by Parliament, the ban would be phased in over four years, affect-ing pubs last, by the end of 2008.

If Reid's proposal becomes law, Britain would be one of a handful of European countries to outlaw smoking in many public places since New York City made headlines with a strict ban last year.

Announcing the plan to the House of Commons, Reid said the measure was a fair compromise that respected people's right to make unhealthy choices, but not to harm others Health advocates, while they praised the

plan as a step forward, faulted it for not going far enough and taking too long to get The British Beer and Pub Association, a

pub owners' group, warned a ban could prompt many to stop serving food, possibly causing customers to drink more.

"We're concerned that we could see a reversion back to the drinking dens we used to have 30 to 40 years ago, when all we served in pubs was alcohol," said Christine Milburn, an association spokeswoman.

As part of the government's effort to further reduce the number of Britons who smoke — now 26 percent — the govern-ment also plans to require "hard-hitting" picture warnings on cigarette packs and new restrictions on tobacco advertising. Reid said.

European spacecraft enters lunar orbit

The Associated Press

- A small spacecraft has made it into lunar orbit, signaling Europe's first successful mission to the moon and paving the way for the craft to be used to study the lunar surface, a European Space Agency spokesman said Tuesday.

The SMART-1 probe made it to within 3,100 miles from the moon Monday morning, and will now begin spinning its way closer to the surface as it orbits, said ESA spokesman Franco Bonacina from the space agency's headquarters in Paris.

By mid-January, the dishwasher-sized spacecraft will be in an elliptical orbit that will take it within 185 miles of the moon's south pole and 1,850 miles from the north pole. Bonacina said.

"Today we have celebrated the successful technology mission, and now we start with science want to do imaging of the surface and study the chemistry of the moon," Bonacina said.

Over the past 13 months, the 809-pound probe has been puttering toward the moon in a mission confrom the ESA's operations center in Darmstadt in southern Germany. It measures 3.3 feet on each side, and solar panels, which help provide ion or solar-electric — propulsion, spread 46 feet.

To reach the lunar orbit, it used only 130 pounds of the 181 pounds of xenon fuel it had aboard — less than expected and a feat that has raised hopes the technology can be used to send other craft longer distances

For this mission, the surprising fuel efficiency the spacecraft means that the agency might be able to extend its six-month mission by up to a year, if it can find the additional funding, Bonacina said.

When the mission is eventually complete, the probe will be left to crash onto the moon's surface.



The European-made SMART-1 solar-powered satellite nears the Moon in this artist's rendition on its way to make the first comprehensive inventory of key chemical elements in the lunar surface. The satellite has reached the first of its closest approaches to the Moon, ESA announced Tuesday. Investigation of the Moon's surface will begin in January.

The mission marks the second time that ion propulsion has been used as a primary propulsion system. The first was the Deep Space 1 probe launched by NASA in October 1998

SMART-1, short for "Small Missions for Advanced Research and Technology," was developed for ESA by the Swedish Space Corporation with contributions from some 30 contractors in Europe and the United States. It took off aboard an Ariane-5 rocket in Sep-

Europe closes in on moon

After a 13-month journey, the European spacecraft SMART-1 made it to within 3,100 miles from the moon Monday and will now begin spinning its way closer to the surface SMART-1 mission ■ Final operational orbit - spanning between 6,214 mi. and 186.4 mi. over January 2005 Next step: Scans moon's of key chemical elements on lunar surface, investigating theory on moon's origin



Crash raises concerns over Ireland's fast police escorts

The Associated Press

DUBLIN, Ireland - A fiery, head-on collision between two cars - one carrying a government minister, the other a vacationing American couple — has revived public fears of speeding by Ireland's police chauffeurs.

Monday night's accident on a narrow scenic road in southwest County Kerry injured the two American tourists, one critically, while the government minister, Eamon O Cuiv, suffered a sprained wrist and gashed arm.

The other two people in the minister's Volvo sedan - the police driver and O Cuiv's secretary escaped with minor injuries, even though the car burst into flames upon impact. Firefighters had to cut open the roof of the other car. the Americans' rented Opel, to free the passengers.

Police said they were still investigating who was to blame and declined to name the American conple, but said they are residents of St. Louis, Missouri

Several ministers in the government of Prime Minister Bertie Ahern have been caught in recent vears flouting Ireland's speeding limits. Three, including Ahern's own re-election motorcade in 2002, have been clocked at speeds of 90 to 100 mph on roads with limits half that speed. The problem is considered endemic for government ministers who represent rural western districts far from Dublin

Refugees hope to rebury family in Afghanistan

BY RIAZ KHAN The Associated Press

PESHAWAR. Pakistan When he finally leaves Pakistan after two decades, refugee Rahman Gul says he will do one last thing for his dead brother - take his remains home for reburial in Afghanistan.

The bearded, 68-year-old fruit seller plans to dig up his brother's grave, collect his body and inter it this time permanently their ancestral graveyard in Afghanistan's eastern Laghman province

Gul lives in Kacha Garhi, a dusty camp on the outskirts of the northwestern city of Peshawar, home to tens of thousands of Afghan refugees who have fled drought and conflict since the Soviet invasion in 1979 up to the re-

pressive rule of the Taliban. In a sprawling graveyard near the camp, refugees have in recent weeks dug up dozens of graves a very unusual step for Muslims

Some are driven by an emotional need to take their dead rela-



Afghan refugees walk past coffins on display Saturday at Kacha Garhi refugee camp near Peshawar, Pakistan. Some refugees have in recent weeks dug up dozens of graves, a very unusual step for Muslims, to

tives on their homeward journey one made by about 3 million refugees in Pakistan and Iran since the Taliban regime fell in Others just want to save the

take back bodies of their relatives for reburial in Afghanistan. graves of dead relatives from being bulldozed. Authorities in Peshawar have issued notices to camp residents to vacate the area to make way for a planned govern-

ment housing estate

"martyr" from the war Afghan mujahedeen fought against Soviet forces during the 1980s. "It's an expression of people's love for their dead relatives to take their bodies and bury them

wise it is not good," said Mohib

Ullah. "It's an insult to the dead."

Gul said he loved his brother, a

"Robot village" at lunar south pole

An Islamic cleric at a mosque

in their own villages," said Gul, who wore a black waist coat and white turban. A 19-year-old construction

worker, Noor Mohammed, was equally committed to his grandfather who also died during the anti-Soviet resistance. 'These martyrs are assets of

the nation. They should be taken there so they know that the objectives they fought for have been achieved and Afghanistan is free." Mohammed said.

Officers considered for island

CAPE TOWN, South Africa - Cape Town city leaders are considering putting police for the first time on Robben Island where former President Nelson Mandela and other political prisoners were jailed, a city councilor said

Now a world heritage site, the island 7.5 miles off the coast of Cape Town, has not been patrolled by police since it was converted from a prison to a museum and national monu-

The island's population of 180 people meant that police were not required before.

Surveillance plane turns back

MOSCOW - A U.S. surveillance plane making a flight near Russia's Black Sea coast turned back after Russia sent a fighter iet to investigate, an Air Force spokesman said Tues-

Col. Alexander Drobyshevsky said Monday's incident involved a U.S. Orion plane based on the Greek island of Crete, the Interfax news agency reported.

The Orion, a four-engine turboprop, is used as a maritime surveillance craft and is equipped with submarine detectors.

Leader denies accusations

STOCKHOLM, Sweden - Zimbabwean opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai said Tuesday that the accusations he plotted to assassinate authoritarian President Robert Mugabe are nothing more than "pure political persecu-

Tsvangirai is in Sweden as a guest of the Olof Palme Center, a human rights and peace group named for the murdered Swedish prime minister.

From The Associated Press

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Surfer escape

CA EUREKA — A surfer who was bumped off his board by a shark was able to push the animal away and paddle back to shore.

Brian Kang, 38, was 200 yards offshore Thursday, waiting for a wave in a popular surfing area near Eureka, when the shark knocked him into the water. The

into the water. The shark came back toward him as he tried to climb back onto the surfboard.

"It just came out of the blue," Kang said from his hospital bed, where he was being treated for gashes on his hip, knees and thumb. "I pushed it away with my hands."

Kang said he never got a good look at the shark, but another surfer spotted a 3-foot dorsal fin, which would indicate a great white shark.

It was the second shark attack along California's northern shore in recent months.

Apartment fire kills four

HARVEY — Four people died following a fire at an apartment complex in this New Orleans suburb and authorities said that some of the victims had non-fire related injuries.

A person was being detained by homicide investigators for questioning, but authorities refused to divulge any details.

A 30-year-old woman, an 11-year-old boy and a 1-year-old girl were dead at the scene. A 17-year-old girl was pronounced dead on arrival at a hospital, while a 10-year-old boy was hospitalized with burns.

Fortunato said the woman, the 17-year-old girl and the 11-year-old boy had injuries apparently not related to the fire. He refused to discuss specifics. He also said investigators were questioning one person.

Doctrine of theft

MN WILLMAR—After its last pastor allegedly bilked them out of \$10,000, leaders of Rejoice Ministries church thought they were being extra careful when they hired James Poole.

Still reeling from the theft, they asked Poole to come to the church and preach in an act of caution to ensure Poole was legitimate before him to be a support of the control of the contr

"He did a good service," church secretary Mary Steffens told The West Central Tribune of Willman for a story in Saturday's paper. "I will give him credit for that."

Poole was hired in August, but less than a month later, he allegedly skipped town without repaying \$3,344 he "borrowed" from the church for rent, trips, even a new bathtub, Steffens said.

Church officials later learned that Poole — whose real name authorities believe is Jerry Andrews — had served jail time for writing bad checks and credit card theft.

Rejoice's congregation of 12 is now trying to decide whether to look for a new pastor or just shut down.

A walk through the hood

PA PITTSBURGH — State education officials rejected a request by parents and school administrators to help pay for buses so children would not have to walk through a crime-ridden neighbor-



hood

Pittsburgh Superintendent John Thompson asked state officials in a letter to designate some of the routes children walk to Homewood Elementary School as hazardous because eight people were shot within blocks of the school in a re-

cent week.

Thompson sought two buses to ferry students to and from the school. More than half the school's 422 students walk to class.

422 students walk to class.
But officials turned down the request, explaining that state law only allows the Department of Education to pay for buses if traffic, not crime, makes walking danger-

White-collar drug dealer

TN A Tennessee physician who launched a massive prescription drug fraud ring to support his own addictions racked up a 28-month prison term this week.

The punishment — doled out by U.S. District Court Senior Judge Leon Jordan — represented a nearly 50 percent break from what Dr. Christopher Castle, 48, had faced

"It reflects Dr. Castle's recognition of his responsibility for his criminal actions as well as his recognition of his co-conspirators' [crimes]," Assistant U.S. Attorney Hugh Ward told Jordan.

Castle pleaded guilty in May 2003 to conspiring with at least four other people in a prescription fraud scheme that involved more than 30,000 pills — many of which that wound up sold on the street



A day on the Water
A group of sea kayakers gather on
the Tennessee River for an all-day
event, a fundraiser for the River
Gorge Land Trust, in Chattanooga,
Tenn.

and even inside a state prison, records showed.

Court records show that Castle's medical practice went spiraling out of control with his addiction to Adderall pills containing amphetamine. That addiction led to a conspiracy in which Castle began writing prescriptions for his co-conspirators for painkillers including OxyContra, hydrocodone and Adderall.

Guacamole traffic jam

CA What all of the commuters on Highway 118 through California's Simi Valley needed Wednesday were some chips and salsa, and they would have been

A tractor-trailer truck carrying 75,000 pounds of avocados overturned on the freeway, blocking two lanes and snarling rush-hour traffic, authorities said.

The truck was heading west on the highway when it swerved to avoid a car and the driver lost control, California Highway Patrol Officer Tom Costigan said.

The semi landed on its right side, blocking two lanes and the shoulder. The large quantity of produce and the size of the truck made moving the semi and cargo difficult. Costigan said.

Bad senior care

NY ALBION — A judge sentenced a retired woman's former caretaker on Monday to 13½ years in prison for stealing money from her.

Susan Standish Hare, 40, formerly of Medina, was convicted in August of burglary, grand larceny, criminal possession of stolen prop-

erty and forgery.

Hare was accused of stealing \$75,000 from a Lyndonville woman in the summer of 2003 and depositing it in a bank account she set up for herself.

Highway deaths up

AL MONTGOMERY — State troopers say the 657 fatalities in accidents this year has surpassed last year's total of 576 deaths.

A rash of 12 deaths the first three days of November drew attention to Alabama's growing highway death toll. Of this year's deaths, 275 occurred on county roads.

City may tax cell phones

DRTLAND — City commissioners will discuss this week a new tax that would impose a 5 percent fee on cell phones, call waiting, caller ID and phone calls placed using the Internet and other telecom services. The tax would add \$2 to a \$40 monthly cell phone bill and collect an estimated \$6 million a year.

GOP lands big spot

GA ATLANTA — Republicans in the Georgia House chose Rep. Glenn Richardson as the state's first GOP speaker since Reconstruction.

Hours later, party switches by two legislators elected as Democrats allowed the Republicans to claim their 98th seat in the 180-member chamber, seven votes more than a majority. The GOP took a Senate majority two years ago.



Pin down that pig Children scramble to capture a greased pig in an effort to win \$10 in prize money at the downtown Collinsville, Ala., Turkey Trot festival.



Explosive demo

A B-25 Mitchell bomber flies over Nellis
Air Force Base during a D-Day re-enactment at the Aviation Nation air show in Las Vegas.



Hungry monkey

Poppy, a 14-year-old female squirrel monkey, eats a worm as her newborn, named Minikey, sleeps on her back at the Oakland Zoo in Oakland, Calif.



Rain can't stop paving A work crew paves a black top during rainy weather on the state parking lot between the War Memorial and Statehouse in Trenton, N.J.



Man-made flurries

The snow machines were up and running at the Granite Peak Ski Area in



Spreading its wings
An American eagle takes to flight
after feasting on an armadillo that
was killed off the side of road near
Gibson, La.



Taking a breather cra

Cross country runner Buddy Davis, 19, catches his breath following a training run that ended during a brief snow fall in Flagstaff, Ariz.

New kids' hospital

IN SOUTH BEND — Memorial at hard with a chair drawn's medical center that could save families from having to travel to Chicago or Indianapolis for specialty care, officials said r he hospital has hired a project consultant who has worked on expansions at children's hospitals across the United States.

Officials hope to have a complete plan by late 2005.

Historical designation

DE LEWES — The portion of Cape Henlopen State Park once known as Fort Miles has been instead on the National Register of Historic Places. The designation enhances efforts to preserve and restore the site, including its observation towers, bunkers and dozens of buildings. Fort Miles was used by the military during World War II and turned over to the state 40 years ago.

Mass transit price hike

GA ATLANTA Atlanta to dominate train system wants to dominate state to the state of the state of

Gas-and-go no more

TWIN FALLS — The City Council took action against drive-off gasoline thefts. At the request of retailers, it passed an ordinance requiring all cash customers to pay before pumping.

Stations failing to enforce prepayment could be fined. Police have fielded 210 reports of drive-off thefts this year. Retailers say they report only a fifth of the incidents.

Amish driver's ed

PA LANCASTER — The Lancaster Highway Safety Council introduced a driver's manual for Amish horse-and-buggy op-

The Amish Community Safety Committee and the state Transportation Department have been working on the manual for nearly three years.

Its publication came just days after an Amish man died in a horse-drawn cart accident in Perry County.

Coal creates jobs

CHARLESTON — Increased coal mining and an improving national economy are expected to create 4,500 jobs a year in West Virginia through 2009, according to a West Virginia University study. The study also predicts that per-capita income will rise from \$23,383 to \$26,449. However, manufacturing job losses are expected to continue.

High rollers welcome

PARK CITY — The Park City Council voted 7-1 to pursue an Indian casino they said would create between 1.300 and

1,500 permanent new jobs in the community a few miles north of Wichita,

The casino plan calls for a hotel and a youth activities area that could feature a theme park and other attractions. The city and the Iowa Tribe of Kansas and Nebraska need federal and state approval for the casino.

HIV spreader convicted

WA OLYMPIA — A man was convicted by a judge Monday on charges he deliberately exposed 17 women to HIV by having unprotected sex with them. Five of the women have tested positive for the virus, which causes AIDS.

Anthony E. Whitfield, 32, faces a minimum sentence of 137 years in prison on the 17 counts of first-degree assault with sexual motivation and other charges.

Health officials said as many as 170 people may have been exposed to the virus because of Whitfield's actions, counting subsequent partners of women he slept with. No additional people have tested positive for HIV, but 45 refused to be tested or couldn't be found.

Keeping their cash

PROVIDENCE — Gov. Don Carcieri's administration said its fiscal reform plan has already saved the state \$55 million.

The state has recovered money on everything from telephone services to stepped-up tax collections, although the governor's office acknowledges a large portion of the \$55 million figure is based on expected savings through the end of the fiscal year and beyond.

The largest amount — \$25 million — is the amount the administration claims they will save with the recent award of a new three-year contract for state employee health insurance to United-Healthcare, according to The Providence Journal

"Tails" wins council seat

FL GROVELAND — The state that is the king of bizarre election finishes added another page to its quirky electoral history Friday: a city council race decided by a coin toss.

G.P. Sloan, 77, and Richard Flynn, 75, each received 689 votes in the Nov. 2 election. No one energed a winner after two recounts, so the candidates and three dozen supporters gathered for a coin flip Priday in the community center of this town of 4,400 residents located 25 miles west of Orleand

The city manager flipped a bicentennial dollar coin, and Flynn shouted "Heads." City manager Jason Yarborough caught it and flipped it on to the back of his hand. "Tails it is," Yarborough said, giving Sloan the victory.

"This is a very unusual occurrence in this day and age when we have such sophisticated mechanisms to vote on, such as a touchscreen computerized voter system," said Mayor Connie Fleetwood. "We've come down to a coin toss."

Florida law provides that candidates "draw lots" to determine a winner in the event of a tie. County election supervisors can determine the method of drawing lots, and Lake County in the past has used a coin toss.

Stories and photos from wire reports

FACES



Latest nationwide tour doesn't spell retirement

"Really, the only thing

that I find inspiring is

music and dance.

That's my calling, and

it's the heart of mu

reason to go on, And if

I can find that

inspiration, it's great.

And if I can't find it,

then it really will be

time to pack it in."

Bette Midler

BY RICK MASSIMO The Providence Journa

ette Midler is in the midst of a nationwide tour, but unlike many of her contemporaries, she isn't calling this a "farewell." "I'm not retiring," she says in a phone inter-"and you can't make me!"

informed that Cher, Gloria Estefan and Barry Manilow have all done swan-song shows recently, she explodes. "They're all retiring? My God, there's not going to be anyone left! [Although] Cher's been retiring for five years, babe."

Kidding aside (maybe not in Cher's case), Midler says she understands the impulse to pack it in.

"[Touring is] very hard work. It's hard, hard, hard. No matter who

nard, nard, nard. No mater who you are, and how you travel, it's very hard... And when you get to a certain age, you say to yourself, "What do I need this for?" "

So what does Midler need this for? "I did this beautiful show, and I

just want everyone to see it."

The show, Midler says, is "very elaborate, and I am elaborate in it." It's full of her trademark singing, dancing and wisecracks, and it's set on Coney Island at the end of the

19th century.

The theme, Midler says, is "the amusement park of life, and/or

death... Life as a funhouse, and ev-erything wrapped around that."

Midler says the show has her hits, such as "Boogie Woo-Milder says the snow has ner mis, such as Doogle Word gie Bugle Boy," "Wind Beneath My Wings" and "The Rose," as well as new songs for her. "People do like to hear the hits," she says, "and they do like to catch up with you and know what it was that hap-

pened to you.

As for her latest album, "Bette Midler Sings the Rose-mary Clooney Songbook," she promises to fit in "as much as I can. It's hard to know, because if you sing that, something else has to go

Midler says Clooney was one of her earliest fav

"I went to her house and she cooked pasta for me. She was one of the sweetest people I ever met in my life. And that voice! That voice was coming out at me in the late that voice: That voice was coming out at the in the face '40s and the early '50s, and I never really got over it. It was just such an emblematic voice. It was a sound that re-ally distilled the times that I was living in. It was gentle, any unsured the times that I was fiving it. It was genite, genteel, warm. It had so much hope and promise in it. I just really adored her." But the album, she says, was producer Manilow's idea. "He told me he had a dream. Of

course, what can you say when someone tells you he had a dream except say, 'OK.'" Manilow was Midler's piano player and musical director very early in both of their careers. Working with him again was fun.

"He's a curious person — his own music and the music he does for others are not really the same thing. He's kind of like an archivist.

"He knows a lot about music, and he can break it down. He's a terrific arranger. . . .He knows how to get good work out of me."

good work out of me.

Midler says that while she's not retiring ("It's foolish to say farewell, because you never know what life is going to hand you"), she also doesn't know what's next.

"I have nothing to announce. I'm

Bette Midler | I have noming to announce. I'm just trying to get through my shows in an elegant and timely fashion, retain my health and my voice, keep everyone around me from going mad and entertain the hordes

After that? "Take a rest, and try to see what happened to [the audiences] and to me. Then look around for the music. Really, the only thing that I find inspiring is music

"That's my calling, and it's the heart of my reason to go on. And if I can find that inspiration, it's great. And if I can't find it, then it really will be time to pack it in."

Surfer inspires Hawaii governor

Teenager Bethany Hamilton, an inspiration to many when she returned to surfing after losing her left arm to a shark, swapped "board stories"

with Gov. Linda Lingle. Lingle told the 14-year-old Hamilton on Friday she surfed for the first time in September.

"It was something I really enjoyed, something I've wanted to do for at least 25 years or so," Lingle said

The two spoke when Lingle thanked Hamilton for filming an anti-drug message for the state. The 30-second public-service announcement begins airing on local radio and television stations this

Rette Midle

performs at Carnegie Hall

April. The

in New York in

mical singer has no plans on

ACA PRESSIER

"I did this because I'm against drugs, and I think that's a main problem in Hawaii that a lot of people get caught into," Hamilton said.

Former president teams with university

Former President Ford said he often walked past a vacant lot where the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy will be housed when he was a student at the University Michigan in the 1930s

Ford spoke to about 400 people gathered Friday at his alma mater for a groundbreaking ceremony for construction of the Joan and Sanford Weill Hall. When I came to the university in 1931, I brought a \$100

check from a principal of a high school who wanted to make darn sure that I went to a school in Ann Arbor,"

"I never would have thought when I plunked that \$100 down 73 years ago that I'd be involved in a ceremony of this kind. ... But strange things happen.

The school's Institute of Public Administration was renamed the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy in 1999 in honor of Ford, the nation's 38th president.

Historic house set for demolition

The house where newspaper columnist Mike Royko penned hard-edged articles on Chicago politics and life is being torn down by its owners

The demolition began Thursday despite pleas from preservationists who say the California Craftsman home has historic value, The Chicago Tribune reported Friday. Officials of affluent Winnetka,

north of Chicago, considered the house the best example of California Craftsman design in the village.

Designed by a local architect in 1906, the house was molded in the Craftsman style, which

featured handcrafted wood detailing, wide eaves, low gables, built-in storage space and tiled fireplaces.

Ownership by Royko, a columnist for the Chicago Tribune who died in 1997, added to the house's significance. said David Bahlman of Landmark Preservation Council of

John and Catherine MacCarthy, who bought the house from Royko's wife, Judy, for \$1.8 million earlier this year. plan to rebuild on the lot

Bill Cosby ribs small Michigan town

Entertainer Bill Cosby poked fun at Michigan's Upper Peninsula in a performance at Northern Michigan University.

"Why are you people up here?" Cosby asked the crowd of more than 6,800 people Friday night at the Berry Events Center. "Didn't you know there was nothing up here when you came to visit the campus? I called my wife before the show, and she asked what it was like up here, and I said, 'I don't know where I'm at.' It's an eight-hour drive from downtown."

Marquette, with a population of

about 20,000, is the Upper Peninsu-

la's largest city. Cosby's routine included jokes about college life, relationships, and parents and children.

Photos and stories from The Associated Press



YOUR MONEY

Old Dell may need cleanup

Ask lim

Q. My 41/2-year-old Dell Pentium III running Windows 98 eventually freezes every time I use it. Sometimes hitting Control + Alt + Delete frees it, but more and more I have to shut off the nower at the surge protector, which I know isn't the best way to turn off a computer.

There are no games on my PC nor any shareware. I run Norton AntiVirus 2003 and Spyhunter as scheduled tasks every week, and they've never found any problems other than low- and medium-risk cookies.

Any suggestions as to the problem? -David Hatcher, Denver

A. Like computer columnists, computers tend to bog down and get cranky the older they get. It is too bad columnists don't have a system restore disc, Mr. H., because that's what your venerable Dell needs after 41/2 years of online work and

other labors Dell included these CDs with its Pentium III models to allow customers who get in trouble to restore the software to its original condition. This requires one to back up all data because the hard

In the best of all worlds, that's what you should

But I also know that many folks hate to even think of giving their computer a brain transplant, so let me suggest some less draconian but probably helpful fixes.

Start by eradicating all of the temporary Internet applications you have collected over those 54 months of online computer travel. These "applets" handle thousands of tasks, like making Web page graphics blink and flash and sizzle, tracking your various preferences and much more. The longer you use a computer, the more these memory maggots build up. The buttons to erase all this stuff are near the cookies that you mention in your note

So click on Tools in the Internet Explorer brows-

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NYSE

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

Monday's Market Summary

AMEX

MOST ACTIVE (\$1 OR MORE)

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+.10 -.39 +.50 +.08 -.15 -.99 +.28

-.44 -.65 -.27 +.05 -.10 -.51

+61.0 +28.2 +24.1

+19.6 +16.5

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er and then Internet Options. In the menu this summons, select the General tab and then click on the buttons there for Delete Files and for Delete Cook ies

After all those years you can expect a lot of hard-drive churning and cursor spinning as this clogging stuff is given a dose of digital Drano.

Next, you need to get rid of all of the stuff that various programs have insinuated onto your start-- things like icons for Real Jukebox,

Apple's QuickTime movie player and a whole lot of other stuff. Click on Start, then Run and type in msconfig to launch the Mi-

crosoft system configuration control panel. There you will find a tab called Startup Open it and look at all of the boxes with check marks in the display. Remove the

checks from anything that sounds suspi-When you reboot after doing these three

things, you will find a marked speedup. The final step is to run the Windows hard drive defragmentation tool. You can find it by clicking on Start and then Pro-

grams and then Accessories and System Tools. But you should first put your computer into what is called Safe Mode so that none of the regular background processes your computer uses will interfere as the defragment tool attempts to write things to the hard drive.

The Safe Mode is engaged using different keys on different Windows 98 machines and by the F8 key with Windows XP. So check your manual or try the likely suspects.

First, hold down the Control key as the computer boots. If that doesn't bring up Safe Mode, try the Enter key or the F3 key. Then do the defrag, and when you reboot, things will be much better

Contact Jim Coates via e-mail at: jcoates@ tribune.com or via snail mail at the Chicago Tribune, Room 400, 435 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago II. 60611. Questions can be answered only through this column. Add your point of yiew at: w.chicagotribune.com/askiim.

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KEY MUTUAL FUNDS

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+23.30 +33.55 +8.74 +17.43 +15.14 +26.11

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro	\$1.332
British pound	51.9
Japanese yen (Nov. 17)	103.0
South Korean won (Nov. 16)	1.070.0
Commercial rates	
Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3766
British pound	\$1.845
Canada (Dollar)	1.201
Denmark (Krone)	5.4
Egypt (Pound)	6.19
Euro	\$1.29
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.77
Hungary (Forint)	187.9
Iceland (Krona)	67.15
Israel (Shekel)	4.424
Japan (Yen)	105.3
Kuwait (Dinar)	0.2946
Norway (Krone)	5.8
Philippines (Peso)	56.3
Saudi Arabia (Rival)	3.5
Singapore (Dollar)	1.649
South Korea (Won)	1.092.0
Switzerland (Franc)	1.1
Thailand (Baht)	40.3
Turkey (Lira)	1.455,000.0

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PRECIOUS METALS

INTEREST RATES

30-year bond4.90 Sources: The Associated Press, Bank of America

Tax change curbs car donators' cut

BY TOM INCANTALUPO

To more than 4,000 of the United States' largest charities, donated cars are sometimes a major source of income.

To lawmakers such as Sen Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, they represent a widely abused income tax loophole.

Charities want things to stay as they are, with hundreds of thousands of donors each year able to deduct the "fair market" value of the donated car — in essence the amount the car would fetch in a private party sale.

But earlier this year, Grassley, who chairs the Senate's Finance Committee, got his way and, effec-tive with donations made after Jan. 1, the tax law will change so that donors can deduct no more than \$500 or what the car actually fetches at an auction, where chari ties often sell the cars. That amount is usually about half the fair market value, says spokeswoman Robyn Eckhard of the Kelley Blue Book.

The change, Grassley said on his Web site, "ends the shady practice of a donor giving a junker car to charity and claiming thousands of dollars for it as a de duction on his income tax." And. he said, "The reforms will place no additional burden on the donor, will not reduce the amount going to charities from a donated car by a dime and will benefit all taxpayers by ending this abuse

Charities disagree — to say the

"This legislation will be a huge disincentive for donating their vehicles," said a statement from the Volunteers of America, the nonprofit group based in Virginia that provides help for youth, abused and neglected children,

homeless individuals and families, the elderly and people with disabilities. The group gets about 80.000 donated cars a year and nets more than \$10 million from

Ron Field, the group's vice pres-ident for public policy, said the change will make it more financially attractive for many prospective car donors to sell the cars especially the late-model cream puffs — rather than donate them for reduced write-off. "Therein lies our problem," he said. "We expect to lose about half of our

most of our income comes from the better cars? At North Shore Animal League in Port Washington, N.Y., Gene Gallagher, director of major gifts, said car donations total about \$30,000 or \$40,000 a year and that, while accounting for a small

[auto donation] income because

percentage of the \$24 million in annual contributions to the group, it's money that's needed. "It saves hundreds of dogs and cats and that's critical to our missions. It's what we're all about," Gallagher said.

Bob Glasser of Port Washington said that, had the new rules been in effect two years ago, he probably would have thought twice about donating an eight-year-old 7 Series BMW that he figures was worth more than \$7,000 despite a major engine defect. "I probably could have found a junkyard that would have given me more," said Glasser, an accoun-

Some recent donors, though, said that, even if the deductions are smaller, donations remain an easy way to get rid of a clunker. One is Bank of New York vice president Christine Tamney, of North Babylon, who recently, with her husband, donated a 1991 Oldsmobile Brayada sport utility vehicle with about 120,000 miles on its odometer.

In decent running condition, the Bravada is worth at least \$2,000, according to the widely used National Automobile Deal ers Association's used car guide.

'When we took a look at the cost of repairs to get it up and run-ning," she said, "it just wasn't worth it to us."



Gift certificate pitfalls set period of time - usually be-

CBS MarketWatch

NEW YORK - When it comes to gift giving, one of the easiest options is a gift certificate. But few people are aware of the hidden fees in gift cards according to a study by Synergistics Research, a market-research company. Common gift-card pitfalls include:

- Expiration dates. Some are as short as a year.
- Dormancy fees. These kick in if the card isn't used within a

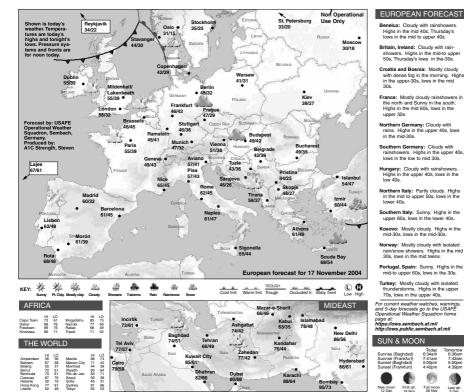
tween six months and a year. The fee can be as high a \$2 per month.

■ Balance/maintenance fees. A low percentage of your remaining balance will be deducted every month after the card isn't used within a set period of time.

Limits on cash back. If you redeem your gift certificate for merchandise valued at less than the gift certificate's value, you may get cash back for the re-mainder. Other gift cards don't offer cash back.



TODAY'S STATESIDE OUTLOOK



UNITED STATES TODAY



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P.Co. (1) P.Co. (2) P.Co. (3) P.Co. (4) P.Co.

Realtors at your new station.

STARS STRIPES Your Hometown Newspaper

Horoscope

The tendency is to flit and float like a butterfly doing whatever catch es your fancy. The phone rings, the e-mail icon bounces up and down, and there's a steady **Holiday Mathis** stream of distraction served up with a pleasant smile. Do at least three quantifiable tasks. Then, you'll avoid wondering at the end of the day, "What did I really

accomplish? TODAY'S BIRTHDAY (November 17). This is a year of expanding your ideas about what is possi ble. You're counted on to give a heartfelt performance in January, and you deliver, earning money for your efforts! You'll be building a reputation through the spring Get out and have fun - it's good for your public relations. Ro-

ARIES (March 21-April 19). It's fantastically lucky both financially and socially to keep written track of your time. Something about documenting your life makes you feel present, able and motivated especially when you look back on those scribbles later.

mantic pacts are made in December

and again in June

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). Even if you have no hard evidence that there are good things to come vou're somehow filled with anticination. Connections with Virgos and Sagittarians are lucrative, though you'll be paying dues for a while.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Loved ones affect you strongly You'll spend the day alternately enthralled and baffled. Let them have their own dramas. Fortuitous meetings are featured in the evening. Something that starts out

all business turns into riotous fun. CANCER (June 22-July 22). If you're wondering whether a loved one's sweet gesture is enough to erase this person's wrongdoings from your memory for good, here's the answer - no, it won't. Getting to the heart of the problem is impera-

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). Friends urge you to disclose the scintillating details of recent goings-on. Some

facts about your life are no one's business but your own. The secret you keep inside grows in power. giving you fuel to do what you must

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22).

When you believe in your talent, you teach others how to believe in you as well. It's not arrogance - really! Confidence is a neces sary component of being an artistic visionary. Put in the necessary hours.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Romantic feelings are thick and engulfing. It makes you long for the days when love was as light as a

sheet of fabric softener. A change of environment will help you get back your levity and therefore your productivity.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Knowing more will change how you act. But extrasensory information can only come through when you're using your usual five senses to the fullest. Clue in to the details - a crack of the voice or the squint of an

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec 21). Events seem to line up for the sole numose of recreation a past shock. This gives you a chance to review how you felt in the past and see if you'd like to choose a new feeling this time around. You do control your feelings.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan.

19). Your heart is yearning. Getting more variety into your life is one key to finding love. The other is believing that you have enough love already and seeing it in the people around you

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Discipline becomes an issue. The "d" word doesn't have to be such a big thing. In fact, discipline is mainly about your small, daily habits. Someone you would do almost anything for will ask for a lot now

Lois

and

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Beetle Bailey

Rover and ĕ

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Matters of faith arise at work. Use that strong moral compass to cherry-pick your business alliances. Tonight, you're quite easy to please You're happy to make someone else happy

Creators Syndicate

ISN'T IT GREAT TO GET OUT OF THE HOUSE ALONE TOGETHER FOR A CHANGE? IT'S SO NICE AND QUIET. WE SHOULD DO THIS MORE Hobbes OFTEN and Calvin a YOU SURE YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE LOOSENING THAT, CHAPLENE? ump Start MOM, DID YOU EVER SMOKE? IM PROUDTO SALTHAT I NEVER ADDICTIVE WE DIMFULLY GUE DUR BLESSING FOR YOU AND IN EXCHANGE, YOU THINK YOU CAN CLAIM US FOR TO HAVE NEW YEAR'S









PEAS! PEAS! PEAS! PEAS!

EATING GOOBER PEAS! DONESS HOW DELICIOUS EATING GOOBER PEAS!



THOUGHT YOU

HATE HAVING



IT'S NOT ABOUT PEAS, IT'S A SONG ABOUT PEANUTS — BUT MOSTLY I JUST LIKE SAYING THE WOOD

GOOBER

111-17

WORD





THIS WAS WRITTEN BY AN ACTUAL CAYE MAN, AND WAS DISCOVERED ONLY RECENTLY BY A FARMER IN TOWA...



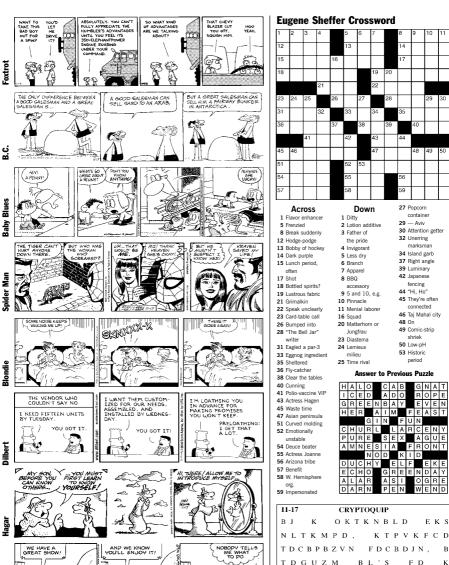












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EDTDLBGU

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHEN MOM WANTED HER TWIN BOYS TO COME IMMEDIATELY, SHE WOULD CRY "ON THE DOUBLE!" Today's Cryptoquip Clue: D equals E

Mom, you've

Dress dollars probably down drain

Dear Abby: Some friends of ours, "Rhonda" and "Mike," planned to be married. They have two small children tog Mike is a longtime childhood friend of my husband's: we met Rhonda through Mike. Mike and Rhonda are no longer together. It was a messy breakup. They no longer speak to each other, and they even

children so they do not have to see each other. My husband and I gave Rhonda \$100 as a down payment on the wedding dress that she just "had to have. Mike and Rhonda both thanked us, and said not to buy a wedding gift, that the money was

have relatives intercede

in the exchange of their

gift enough. Rhonda bought the dress and now plans to sell it. My husband and I are not well-off, and we would like our money back. We feel that now the wedding has been canceled, the money should be returned Rhonda has not offered to do it. Should we confront her and tell

her that when she sells the dress that we'd like the \$100 back? How should we handle this - Want Our Money

in Washington Dear Wants: Rather than "con front" Rhonda, remind her that when she sells the dress, you

would like her to return the money. But don't hold your breath. Since your friendship was based on your long standing friendship with Mike, she may assume that her relationship with you is history - and not feel inclined to do so.

Dear Abby: I have fallen in love with a wonderful man I'll call

"Hank." Hank is everything I want in a man. We have been together for five months, and he is always very well-dressed which is important to me. I take pride in the way I look and want

my partner to do the same Hank and I went out yesterday. It was cold outside and

Hank said he would wear a sweater. Well, Abby, the sweater looked like something he found in a trash bin! It was stained, dirty and faded. How do I tell Hank that sweater has to go without hurting his feelings? I felt emharrassed to be with him which I hated to admit to myself. How can I tell him not to wear it again?

- Embarrassed in Illinois Dear Embarrassed: Do NOT tell him not to wear it again, or that you felt embarrassed to be seen with him in it. When an otherwise spiffy dresser wears a garment that is "old, stained, faded," etc., it is safe to assume that the item has sentimental value. Since you prefer that he wear something nicer, buy him a sweater or two - and as the weather grows colder, let him know how much it would please you to see him in something you selected especially for him.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at http://www.uexpress.com/dearabby Universal Press Syndicate

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME Unscramble these four Jumbles.

to form four ordinary words GINOR

one letter to each square,

GLIEB

ZOLENZ

YNOFLE

suggested by the above cartoon.

Yesterday's

AWASH TYPED WHOLLY Jumbles: Answer: When the surfers saw the big waves, they said it was - WORTH THE "WADE"

HOW SHE FINISHED

THE LAUNDRY WHEN

THE DRYER BROKE.

Now arrange the circled letters to

(Answers tomorrow

form the surprise answer, as

Family Circus

"Today we learned we live on a planet. Tomorrow I hope we'll find out which one."

Smoky neighbor a health hazard

Dear Annie: I have lived in a wonderful

anartment for five years Three months ago, a woman who is a heavy smoker moved in down-

Her smoke drifts into my apartment, even when I have my windows and patio door closed. Last month, the smell was so had. I went to her apartment to confront her. She apologized and promised to buy a smokeless

ashtray, but nothing has changed. Also, she is a senior citizen, and I know it would be nearly impossible for her to quit. I have gone to my doctor because the secondhand smoke is

affecting my health. He put me on allergy medication, but I am still suffering.
I can feel the smoke burning in my throat and lungs. I am so concerned that I've started wearing a dust mask to filter out the

I have talked to the manage ment office and was told there is nothing they can do. I also

Annie's Mailbox

checked my lease, and although there is a section regarding "nuisances " cigarette smoke isn't listed Please help me. I am losing my patience and do not want to have a blow-up with this

woman Do I have any legal rights to protect me against her cigarette smoke? I don't want to

forced out?

move. Can she be

- Trouble Breathing in San Leandro, Calif. Dear San Leandro: No. There are no current laws, even in California, that prohibit someone from smoking inside her own apartment. Since you have a health condition, it's possible you can seek redress through the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission, Otherwise, try adding some ventilation to your own place, perhaps a filtration system, that will help you breathe easier. And start looking for another place soon, preferably one with a no-smoking policy

Dear Annie: I am dating "Roger," a man I love very much. In the past, Roger has dated overly jealous women who cheated on him and now I am living in their shadow. If he neglects to introduce me to some-one and I ask who it is, he jumps to the conclusion that I am jealscheduled to go somewhere, he will leave without me. However if HE is behind schedule and I

call to see if he is on the way, thinks I am checking up on him and becomes very angry. Roger currently is not speaking to me because I called to ask

where he was. - Confused in Freeport, Ill. Dear Confused: It is unhealthy to walk on eggshells in a relationship because you fear upsetting them. Roger is insecure, childish, suspicious and inconsiderate. Get out while you can.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Miltchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annies-mailbox@comcast.net, or write to: Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045.





"Sorry to intrude, ma'am, but we nought we'd come in and just sort roam around for a few minutes."



SCOREBOARD

AFN-TV & Radio

Wednesday

AFN-Sports, 5 a.m.—Tennis: Masters Cup louston (dld). AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—Auto racing: Nextel Cup Southern 500 (dld).
AFN-Sports, 2 p.m.—College football: Ohio St. at Purdue (dld).

AFN-Sports, 6 p.m.—Boxing: John Ruiz (40-5-1) vs. Andrew Golota (38-4-1) for WBA (40-5-1) vs. Andrew Golota (38-4-1) for WBA heavyweight championship: Chris Byrd (37-2-1) vs. Jameel McCline (31-3-1) for IBF heavyweight championship: Evander Holy-field (38-7-2) vs. Larry Donald (41-3-2), heavy-weights; Hasim Rahman (39-5-1) vs. Kali Meehan (29-2), heavyweights (dld).

Thursday

AFN-Sports, 1 a.m.—College basketball: reseason NIT, second-round game, teams

AFN-Sports, 3 a.m.—NBA: Miami at Milwau-

kee.

AFN-Sports, 7 a.m.—NFL: NFL Films Game
of the Week I (did).

AFN-Sports, 9 a.m.—Soccer: Jamaica at
U.S. men World Cup qualifier (did). U.S. meń World Cup qualifier (did).
AFN-Sports, 11:30 a.m.—Teninis: Masters
Cup Houston, Day 3 (did).
AFN-Sports, 2p.m.—Motor racing: NASCAR
Trucks Darington 200 (did).
AFN-Sports, 6p.m.—Rodeo: Pro Bull Riding
Tour World Finals (did).

AFN-Sports, 7:30 p.m.—Golf: World Golf: championships World Cup. 1st round (dld).

All times Central European Time; dld indi-cates delayed broadcast. All listings are sub-ject to change. Some radio broadcasts not available in all areas. Visit www.myafn.nel for more information.

College football

AP Top 25 schedule

Thursday, Nov. 18 No. 15 Virginia Tech vs. Maryla Saturday, Nov. 20 No. 2 Auburn at Alabama

No. 2 Auburn at Alabama No. 2 Oklahoma at Baylor No. 4 California vs. Stanford No. 5 Utah vs. BYU No. 7 Michigan at Ohio State No. 8 Louisville at Houston No. 9 Wisconsin at No. 17 Iowa No. 10 Florida State vs. Florida No. 12 Miami vs. Wake Forest

No. 13 Boise State vs. Loui No. 14 LSU vs. Mississippi ana Tach No. 14 LSU vs. Mississippi No. 15 Tennessee at Vanderbilt

No. 18 Virginia at Georgia Tech No. 19 Boston College at Temple No. 24 UTEP vs. SMU

NCAA Division I-AA Poll

PHILADELPHIA — The top 25 teams in the Sports Network Division i-AA football poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 14 and previous rank-

Decord Pts Pvs

1. Southern Illinois (105)		2,718 1
2. Furman (3)	8-2	
Western Kentucky	8-2	2,412 5
Georgia Southern		
5. New Hampshire	8-2	2.126 7
6. William & Mary	9-2 8-2 8-2 8-2	2.010 10
8. Lehigh	9-1	1.917 8
9. James Madison	8-2	1.762 4
10. Sam Houston State	8-2	1,708 3
11. Delaware	7-3	1.691 11
12. Hampton	9-1	1.480 13
13. Harvard (1)	9-0	1.323 15
14. Jacksonville State	8-1	1.253 14
15. Eastern Washington	8-3	1.201 16
16. Northwestern State	7-3	1.093 19
17. Wofford	7-3	1.021 12
18. Cal Poly-San Luis Obis	spo 8-2	970 18
19. Alabama State	8-1	722 20
20. Southern U.	8-2	504 25
21. Coastal Carolina	9-1	464 24
22. Pennsylvania	7-2	411 17
23. South Carolina State	8-2	374 -
24. North Dakota State	8-3	366 -
25. Northern Iowa	6-4	160 -
Others receiving vote	es: Villar	nova 149.
Stephen F. Austin 142, N	Montana :	State 132.
Arkansas Pine-Bluff 15, N	Maine 8, N	Massachu-
setts 8, Texas State 8.		

NCAA Division II playoffs

Second Round Saturday, Nov. 20 Grand Valley State (9-2) at Northwood

I0-1) West Chester (9-3) at Shippensburg (10-1) Edinboro (9-2) at East Stroudsburg (9-1) Carson-Newman (9-2) at Valdosta State

(9-1)
Texas A&M-Kingsville (9-1) at Northwest
Missouri State (10-1)
North Dakota (9-2) at Michigan Tech (9-1)
Arkansas Tech (10-1) at Albany State, Ga.
(10-0) Colorado Mines (12-0) at Pittsburg State (11-0)

(11-0)

 Quarterfinals
 Saturday, Nov. 27

 North Dakota-Michigan Tech winner vs.
Grand Valley State-Northwood winner
 Colorado Mines-Pittsburg St. winner ys.
Texas A&M-Kingsville-Northwest Mo. St. win-

ner
West Clester-Shippensburg winner vs. Ed-inboro-East Stroudsburg winner
Arkansas Tech-Albany State, Ga. winner vs. Carson-Newman-Valdosta State winner

NCAA Division III playoffs

First Round Saturday, Nov. 20 Curry, Mass. (9-1) at Hobart, N.Y. (8-1) Muhlenburg, Pa. (8-2) at St. John Fisher,

Shenandoah, Va. (7-3) at Delaware Valley

Bridgewater, Va. (8-2) at Washington & Jef-ferson, Pa. (10-0) Mount St. Joseph, Ohio (10-0) at Wheaton, Ill. (9-1)) ra III (6-4) at Wooster Ohio (10-0)

Aurora, III. (6-4) at Wooster, Onlo (10-0) Carthage, Wis. (9-1) at Alma, Mich. (8-2) Christopher Newport, Va. (8-2) at Salis-ury, Md. (10-0) St. Norbert (9-1) at Wisconsin-La Crosse (6-3) Wartburg, Iowa (8-2) at Concordia-Moor-head (10-0) Mary Hardin-Baylor (9-1) at Trinity, Texas llamette, Ore, (7-3) at Occidental, Calif.

College basketball

Monday's men's scores

EAST umbia Union 78

Monday's ment's scores

Authorn 27. Counting Union 27.

Mercynury Gr. Umba 18.

Mercynury Gr. Gr. Mercynury Gr. Mercynury

Air Force 66 Mississiph 32

Air Force 66 Mississiph 32

Air Force 66 Mississiph 32

Air Force 67 Mississiph 32

Carolina 15 Mississiph 32

Carolina 15 Mississiph 32

Carolina 15 Mississiph 32

Creighton 74, Mississiph 46

Creighton 74, Air Carolina 56

Drake 121, Robert Morris 56

Orake 121, Robert Morris 56

Missouri 68, Brown 60

Ohlo St. 74, Towson 53
Preseason NT
First Bount
Colorado 72, C.M. Direction 57
Michigan 58, Biol Ordination 57
Wake Forest 97, George Washington 76
Wake Forest 97, George Washington 76
Wake Forest 97, George Washington 76
Wake St. 81, EA EXHIBITION
Wash St. 81, EA EXHIBITION
Wash St. 81, EA EXHIBITION
Wash St. 81, EA Washington 76
West Virginia 97, Pan American-Mexico 42
Wicklas 51, 83, Mitheter First 57
Whitels 51, 83, Mitheter First 57
Whitels 51, 83, Mitheter First 57
Wash Wicklas 51, 83, Mitheter First 57

Monday's women's scores

Monday's women's scores
Indiana, Pas, 26, Stephend p
Indiana, In

0 Harding 107, Arkansas Baptist 38 Incarnate Word 71, Lubbock Christian Midwestern St. 63, St. Edward's, Texas

Rolen, StL Edmonds, StL Drew, Atl Berkman, Hou Clemens, Hou Loretta, SD Ramirez, Chi Gagne, LA

Kent, Hou Finley, LA-Ari Alou, Chi Pierre, Fla

St. Mary's, Texas 77, Angelo St. 68 E. New Mexico 57, New 153 South Backas 75, Mesa, Colo. 68 Washington 72, Minnesota 67, OT Florida 95, E. 55, Mesa, Colo. 68 Washington 72, William 167, William 167,

Baseball

American League MVP votes

Sheffield, NY Ramirez, Bos Ortiz, Bos Tejada, Bal Santana, Min Suzuki, Sea Young, Tex Rivera, NY Rodriguez, Det Rodriguez, De Schilling, Bos Nathan, Min Jeter, NY Kotsay, Oak Rodriguez, N Damon, Bos Konerko, Chi Blalock, Tex Mora, Bal Mora, Bai Teixeira, Tex Hunter, Min Martinez, Cle Durazo, Oak Cordero, Tex rord, Min Guillen, Det Hafner, Cle Matsui, NY Figgins, Ana Chavez, Oak Varitek, Bos

American League MVPs

2004 — Vladimir Guerrero, Anaheim 2003 — Alex Rodriguez, Texas 2002 — Miguel Tejada, Oakland 2001 — Ichiro Suzuki, Seattle

- Mögud-Teidat, Gakland
- Jason Glambi, Oakland
- Jason Glambi, Oakland
- Ivan Rodriguez, Texas
- Ivan Glambi, Oakland
- Jason Glambi, Oakland
- Jason Glambi, Gakland
- Rodriguez, Texas
- Ken Giffey J., Gaettle
- Mo Vaught, Boston
- Frank Tiomas, Chicago
- Hong Galler, Chicago
- Bernis Eckersley, Oakland
- Rodri Vourt, Miwaukee
- Rodri Vourt, Miwaukee
- Book Garew, Mikawakee

1988

1984 1983 1982 1981 1980 1979 1978

1978 – Jim Ricé, Bóston 1977 – Rod Carew, Minnesota 1976 – Thurman Munson, New York 1975 – Fred Lynn, Boston 1974 – Jeff Burroughs, Texas 1973 – Reggie Jackson, Oakland 1972 – Dick Allen, Chicago 1971 – Vida Blue, Oakland 1970 – Boog Powell, Baltimore

National League MVP votes

NEW YORK — Voting for the 2004 National League Most Valuable Player Award, with first-, second- and third-place votes and total points based on a 14-9-8-7-6-5-4-3-2-1

1st 2nd 3rd Total 24 7 1 407 6 21 3 311 1 1 20 247 1 3 7 226

Helton, Col Estrada, Atl Johnson, Ari Thome, Phi Smoltz, Atl Cabrera, Fla Benitez, Fla Burnitz, Col Abreu, Phi Castilla, Col Oswalt, Hou Oswalt, Hou Dunn, Cin Zambrann nn, Cin mbrano, Chi vin, SD Illins, Phi

National League MVPs

National League MVYs

00 — Barry Bonds, San Francisco

00 — Barry Bonds, San Francisco

100 — Sarry Bonds, San Francisco

100 — Jeff Kent, San Francisco

100 — San Francisco

1990 – Barry Bonds, Pitsburgh et al. 1991 – 1995 – 1995 – 1995 – 1996 –

Tennis

WTA Tour Championships

THE A OUT CHAMPIOONSHIPS
Monday
At the Staples Center
Purse: 33 million
Surface Hard-Indoor
Milliams (7), Indies States, 4-6,6-2,6-4,
Championship
Nadia Petroya, Russia, and Meghann
Shaughness, United States, 46,6-2,6-4,
Shaughness, United States, 46,6-2,6-4,
Shaughness, United States, 46,6-2,6-4,
Shaughness, United States, 6-6,6-2,6-4,
Shaughness, United States, 6-6,6-6,6-6,6-6,6-6,

ATP Masters Cup

At The West Cody

At The West Cody

Furse: Singles, \$3.7 million; Doubles,
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Surface: Hard-Outdoor
Singles
Red Group

Roope Federer (J.), Switzerland, def. Gastool, Gastoo, Gody

Royal Cody, Surface Cody

Royal Cody, Surface Cody, Surface Cody

Royal Cody, Surface Cody

Royal Cody, Surface Cody, Surface

College soccer

Men's Division I tournament

First Round Nov. 19-20 UCF (10-6-2) at Florida International

41-0-0) -- at Florida International George Washington (9-8-4) at North Caroli-na (10-8-2) -- Wis-Milwaukee (13-4-3) at San Francis (14-4-1) -- Colling Collin (14-4-1)
College of Charleston (16-5-1) at South
Carolina (12-6-1)
Memphis (10-6) 1) at Ohio State (10-6-2)
Coastal Carolina (14-7-1) at Dube (14-5)
Coastal Carolina (14-7-1) at Dube (14-5)
Long Island U, (9-6-4) at American (14-5-2)
Hofstra (11-9-1) at Seton Hall (12-6-3)
Western Illinois (11-5-1) at Northwestern (14-5-2)

14-5-2)
Darfmouth (7-3-6) at Boston U. (10-7-2)
CS Northridge (11-5-2) at Loyola Mary-nount (10-7-3)
Santa Clara (15-5-0) at California (12-3-3)

EXIT POLLING AT THE NEWEST NEL AND MAJOR-LEAGUE BASEBALL STADIUMS CONFIRMS IT. 43% SAID THEY COULDN'T REMEMBER THE

99

Michigan St. (12-6-1) at Tulsa (10-6-3) Marist (11-7-0) at Connecticut (11-7-3) Akron (13-4-3) at Michigan (10-7-4)

Women's Div. I tournament

Third Round
Nov. 19-21
At campus sites
North Carolina (19-0-2) vs. Santa Clara (b-4-2) Illinois (15-5-2) vs. Nebraska (14-8-0) Portland (19-3-0) vs. Texas (15-6-2) Connecticut (18-6-1) vs. Notre Dame

Connecticut (13-3-1)
Duke (14-7-0) vs. UCLA (15-6-0)
Tennessee (17-4-2) vs. Ohio St. (18-3-3)
Princeton (17-2-0) vs. Boston College (16-6-0) Princeton (17-20) vs. boston concy (16-6-0) Washington (16-4-1) vs. Maryland (9-6-4) Fourth Round Nov. 26-28 At campus sites North Carolina-Santa Clara winner vs. Illi

north Carolina-Santa Clara Winner VS. III-iois-Nebraska winner Portland-Texas winner VS. Connecticut-Notre Dame winner Duke-UCLA winner vs. Tennessee-Ohio St.

Duke-UCLA winner vs. Tennessee-Unio St. Winner vs. Washington-Maryland winner in the st. Washington-Maryland winner in the st. Washington-Maryland winner in the st. WashFinal Sunday, Dec. 5
Semifinal winners
Semifinal winners

College hockey

NCAA Division I poll

MINNEAPOLIS — Top teams in the NCAA Di-vision I men's ice hockey poli, compiled by U.S. College Hockey Online, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 14, points, and previous ranking:

rds through No.-nking: Record Pts Pvs 4-1-1 597 1 7-2-1 530 2 7-2-0 528 3 7-3-0 471 6 6-2-0 418 4 5-2-1 390 7 9-3-0 309 13 1. Boston College (37) Boston College (3 Michigan (2) Minnesota (1) Wisconsin Colorado College New Hampshire Ohio State 7. Ohio State
8. Minnesota-Duluth
9. North Dakota
9. Cornell
11. Denver
12. Maine
13. Northern Michigan
14. Michigan State 250 250 250 208 168 88 81 64 . Michigan State . Boston University

15. Bostoñ University 5-3-6 64. Others receiving votes: Colgate 58, North eastern 35, St. Cloud State 19, Mass.-Lowe Lesters 13, Massachus etts 6, Union 6, Alabama-Huntsville 5, St. Lawrence 5, Mebraska-Omaha 4, Alaska-Rohorage 3, Miami 3, Minnesota State 2.

Deals

Monday's transactions

RASFRALL

American League
ANAHEIM ANGELS—Exercised their 2005
contract option on C Bengle Molina. Declined to exercise their 2005 option on RHP

Ellned to exercise their 2005 option on rem-amon Ortiz.

REVELAND

RIDAMS—Activated LiP

RASON Stanfed, RiP Kazuhito Tadano, INF

RIDAMS—Activated LiP

RASON Stanfed, RiP Kazuhito Tadano, INF

RIDAMS—Activated LiP

RASON STANFED AND RESEARCH

REVENUE AND RE third-base coach first-base coach.

rst-base coach.

National League

NEW YORK METS—Declined to exercise
neir 2005 contract option on LHP Al Leiter. weir 2005 contract option on LHP Al Leiter.

Northern League

FARGO-MOORHEAD REDHAWKS—Sold the contract of C Kelley Gulledge to the Milwaukee Brewers. Brewers.

NNIPEG GOLDEYES—Sold the contract

kee Brewers.
WINNIPEG GOLDEYES—Sold the contract
of RHP Oscar Montero to the San Francisco
Gants and the contract of RHP TJ. Stanto
to the Anaheim Angel.

BASKETBALL

National Saketball Association
NBA—Promon Saketball Association

nation officer. CHARLOTTE BOBCATS—Activated G Keith

CHARLOTTE BOBCATS—Activated G Keith Bogans and F Jamal Sampson from the in-jured list. Placed G Bernard Robinson and F Tamar Slay on the injured list. FOOTBALL National Football League CHICAGO BEARS—Placed DB Alfonso Mar-

CHICAGO BEARS—Placed DB Alfonso Mar-shall on injured reserve.

DALLAS COWBOYS—Signed CB Lenny Will-iams from the practice squad. Placed CB Ty-rone Williams on injured reserve.

MIAMI DDJPHINS—Signed S Quintin Will-iams from the practice squad. Claimed DE Melvin Williams off walvers from San Fran-cisco, Signed S Ricky Sharpe to the practice squad.

Squad.
SAN DIEGO CHARGERS—Named Jim Steeg
vice president and chief operating officer.
Placed LB Zeke Moreno on injured reserve.
Signed FB George Layne.
COLLEGE
MCAA—Named Lyon, Rothenhoefer, Rose.

COLLEGE
NCAA—Named Lynn Rothenhoefer, Rose-mont College athletic director and lacrosse coach, Division III Women's Lacrosse Com-mittee member and Metro Region chairwom-

n. ALABAMA-Named Lee Nickell men's assistant tennis coach.
BENEDICTINE, KAN.—Announced the resigation of Dan Leahy, men's soccer coach.

INDIANA STATE—Fired Tim McGuire, foot-

NUMBER STREET - THE SHARE AND A STREET - THE SHARE AND A SHARE AND

TANK McNamara

WE'LL TAKE ADVANTAGE OF THE MARKETERS' YEARS OF HARD WORK EDUCATING THE FANS THAT THEY'RE NOT GOING TO SEE A "GAME," THEY'RE GOING FOR A "GAME EXPERIENCE." NOW THAT VOTERS HAVE APPROVED THE BONDS, ARCHITECTS ARE AT WORK MLIAS AHADS ON WHAT THE TEAM CALLS THE FIRST COMPLETELY 21ST-CENTURY NEL STADIUM.

THEY COULDN'T REMINDER THE SCORE 57% SAID THEY COULDN'T REMINDER WHO PLINED, 64% SAID THEY REMINDERED AT LEAST ONE OF THE COMMERCIALS ON THE SCOREBOARD.

Tennessee not taking Vandy lightly despite its dominance

Vols can earn trip to SEC title game vs. team they haven't lost to since '82

BY ELIZABETH A. DAVIS The Associated Press

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. - Tennessee's season has come down to this - beat Vanderbilt and go to the Southeastern Conference championship game

Don't laugh. The Vols aren't. Even though No. 15 Tennessee hasn't lost to the Commodores since 1982 - a span of 21 games — and Vanderbilt hasn't even scored a point against its in-state rival since 2000. Tennessee linebacker Kevin Burnett is serious about winning Saturday's game in Nashville.

"This could be embarrassing. This could ruin our championship hopes. This could ruin everything if we lose this game," Burnett said. "We're not playing just to play Vanderbilt anymore. This has a lot at stake. We have a ring at stake. It will kill me for us to lose to Vanderhilt '

If they stumble against Vanderbilt (2-8, 1-6), the Vols (7-2, 5-1) could still get into the SEC championship game by beating Kentucky in their regular-season finale Nov. 27.

"I guess you only have to win one of the two, but I don't think anybody here is looking at it that Tennessee coach Phillip

Fulmer said. That's the right attitude, Burnett says, especially for the coach-

"We have to take the mentality



Junior Rick Clausen, above, is Tennessee's third starting QB this season because of injuries to Frik Ainge and Brent Schaeffer.

that it's do or die now. Not just us, but this could mean jobs. If we don't go to the SEC championship it's a good possibility this coaching staff will lose their jobs for that. That's how we look at it. Rurnett said "If Tennessee loses to Vanderbilt or Kentucky, we're going to have some problems.

Burnett really thinks Fulmer and his staff could be fired after a "If I was the athletic director,

yeah," he said. Tennessee should use its next two games to iron out some problems and get better prepared for the SEC championship against No. 2 Auburn, which beat the Vols 34-10 earlier this season. "We've got two big challenges

here ... and then obviously an opportunity out there in front of us that if we play well we'll get." Ful-"We need to improve considerably in some areas to be ready for that opportunity as well

Tennessee has to get adjusted new quarterback. Junior Rick Clausen will be the Vols third starter this season, replacing freshmen Brent Schaeffer and Erik Ainge. Schaeffer broke his collarbone at South Carolina and Ainge separated his shoulder the next game against Notre

Tennessee had last week off after a 17-13 loss to Notre Dame, and many other injured players used the time to heal.

Center Jason Respert missed the Notre Dame game because of

an ankle sprain.
"I feel great," he said. "My legs feel fresh.

With last week off, some of the players watched football games like Auburn's win over Georgia and Pittsburgh's victory at Notre

But the players say they're not ready to talk about Auburn, yet "We need to stop thinking about the SEC championship

game." Respert said. "If you look over Vanderbilt and Kentucky and go out and play like crap they'll beat you.



na coach Bob Stoops, left, shakes hands with Nebraska coach Bill Callahan following their game in Norman, Okla., Saturday. Oklahoma won 30-3, and sparked controversy by keeping its starters in the game and deciding not to kick a field goal on fourth down in the final minute. "In the heat of the game. I got caught unfortunately between sportsmanship and BCS points and in my mind probably chose the wrong one because I do believe in sportsmanship," Stoops said.

Stoops: Oklahoma No. 2 because of schedule strength

By JEEF LATZKE The Associated Press

NORMAN Okla - Even Oklahoma coach Bob Stoops gets influenced by the BCS standings.

Stoops spent Monday crediting the Sooners' No. 2 spot in the new Bowl Championship Series standings to strength of schedule and regretting the perception that Oklahoma tried to run up the score against Nebraska in an ef-

fort to gain a few precious votes. The Sooners maintained the econd spot in the rankings behind top-rated Southern Califor-

nia. But No. 3 Auburn cut the Sooners' lead in half, from .0567 points last week to .0271 this The top two teams in the final

BCS standings will play in the Orange Bowl on Jan. 4 for the national championship.

The race became tighter after Oklahoma beat Nebraska 30-3 and Auburn defeated Georgia 24-6, and voters in The Associated Press' poll moved Auburn into a tie with the Sooners at No. 2 Still, the computer rankings kept Oklahoma the top team in the nation, even ahead of BCS No. 1 Southern California.

The BCS became an issue on Saturday when the Sooners kept their starters in the game and decided not to kick a field goal on fourth down in the final minute. apparently looking for more

In retrospect, Stoops said he probably should have acted differ-

"In the heat of the game I got caught unfortunately between sportsmanship and BCS points and in my mind probably chose the wrong one because I do believe in sportsmanship," Stoops said On Monday, Stoops pointed to

the Sooners' schedule as the reason they came on top of the computer rankings. "I guess our schedule has been

strong and that's helping us,"

Oklahoma's schedule includes victories against Bowling Green, currently ranked 25th, as well as Oregon of the Pac-10. Auburn's nonconference schedule included Louisiana-Monroe, Louisiana Tech and Division I-AA The Cita-

Oklahoma running back Kejuan Jones said the Sooners are in a quandary.

When Oklahoma was blowing teams out last season, experts deemed the Big 12 weak. Now, that the Sooners are winning by a smaller margin, they, not the conference, are regarded as weaker. 'They're not going to ever be

satisfied by the way we win. Jones said Some Sooners players have said they didn't fully understand

how the BCS worked, but just hoped that if they finished the season undefeated they'd get a shot at the national championship. The Trojans, Sooners and Ti-

gers are all 10-0. Each has two games left and one loss by any of them would help resolve what could be another BCS problem. 'I think as a team we're just fed

up with the BCS stuff," Jones aid. "We just want to go out and play as hard as we can and get the victories as best as we can.

Wolverines are determined not to let Buckeyes ruin their Rose Bowl hopes

BY LARRY LAGE

The Associated Press ANN ARBOR, Mich. - Hate

That's the word Chad Henne used to describe the Michigan-Ohio State rivalry, and it's a description his coach probably wishes his freshman quarterback had avoided

"It's the biggest tradition in college football," Henne said.

"They hate us and we hate them Michigan coach Lloyd Carr

said because Henne hasn't played the Buckeyes yet, he doesn't really understand

"Hate, I guarantee is not part of this rivalry," Carr said Monday.
"And I think when he's through he would not characterize it that way. They probably have guys that say the same thing.

"I think if you're at Michigan, you hate to lose to Ohio State. And I think if you're at Ohio State, you hate to lose to Michigan, I think that's what Chad Henne meant, so print it that way.

Carr then smiled and laughed in a rare moment of levity during a week when a lot is at stake for No. 7 Michigan.

Ten) win at Ohio State on Saturday, they will repeat as outright conference champions and will play in a second straight Rose

If the Buckeyes (6-4, 3-4) win, they'll end a disappointing season with a satisfying victory.

"For them to snoil the season for us. it has to be a big motivator for them," senior running back Kevin Dudley said.

An Ohio State victory would also drop Michigan into a first-place tie and possibly a second-tier bowl in Florida

Unless the postseason game is a part of the Bowl Championship eries, namely the Rose Bowl in California the Wolverines want no part of it

"We don't want to go back down to Florida," Marlin Jackson said. "We want to go to Pasade-

Michigan controls its postseason fate because it got the help it needed when previously unbeaten Wisconsin lost at Michigan State on Saturday

After the Wolverines beat Northwestern 42-20 — their seventh straight win this season and

many of them huddled around televisions to root for their instate

"I was going crazy," linebacker Roy Manning said. "It's probably one of the only times I was rooting for Michigan State."

At least one former Buckeye -Jim Massey — will be pulling against his school because he has two younger brothers - Patrick and Mike - on Michigan's team.

"He definitely roots for us," said defensive tackle Patrick Massey, a Brecksville, Ohio, native "He's a family guy. He's got a lot of pride in his school: he loves Ohio State; loves the program; he's a huge fan of coach (Jim Tressel). But he puts that all aside and roots for his brothers and wants us to be successful."

The Wolverines don't expect to hear Jim Massey or any other Michigan fan cheering Saturday at the Horseshoe.

"Going into a stadium where there are 90,000 people cheering for you to lose, it sends chills through your body," Dudley said. "Running out there, everybody

is booing you. Going out there and trying to prove that you're the better team, it's nice,

PGA Tour pioneer Sifford joins golf greats

First black tour member inducted into World Golf Hall of Fame

By Doug FERGUSON
The Associated Press

ST. AUGUSTINE, Fla. — As the first black PGA Tour member, Charlie Sifford knew he had to keep his cool if he wanted to pave the way for others.

As the first black inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame, Sifford lost his composure quickly.

He held up the crystal trophy for everyone to see, waving it from side to side like a wand and smiling broadly. Moments later he broke down, bowing his head and softly tapping the podium with his fist, choking back tears.

with his fist, choking back tears.
"You're going to have to forgive
me, because this is touching," Sifford said. "A little ol' caddie boy
from Charlotte, North Carolina ...
getting inducted into this great

hall. How about it?"

More than 40 years after he helped put an end to the whites-only membership rules on

the PGA Tour, Sifford took his place among golf's greatest figures in a historic induction ceremony Monday night in front of 3,000 people who laughed, cried and celebrated his amazing jour-

"Tonight we honor a man not only for his accomplishments on the course, but the course he took in life," Gary Player said in his introduction of the 82-year-old Sifford. "Persistence is an ingredient that is essential to success, and Charlie had that persistence."

Joining Sifford in a most diverse class of inductees was Canadian amateur Marlene Stewart Streit, Japanese star Isao Aoki, and former U.S. Open champion Tom Kite, whose endless work ethic brought him 19 victories.

Sifford paid his dues like no

He risked ridicule and threats breaking through the Caucasian-only clause on the PGA, finally rescinded in 1961 after Sifford became the first black on tour.

Someone left feces in the cup at

the Phoenix Open. Fans kicked his ball in the rough. Telephone calls in the middle of the night warned him not to show up at the golf course. Sifford played on, winning twice on the PGA Tour and later capturing the 1975 Semior PGA Chambionship.

"This is a great day, not only for Charlie Sifford but all of golf," Tiger Woods said in videotaped remarks.

The induction brought membership in the hall to 104, and a plea from Sifford that he not be the last black.

He paid tribute to Teddy

Rhodes and Bill Spiller, who paved the way for him in the blacks-only United Golf Association; to Lee Elder, who became the first black to play in the Masters in 1975; and to Calvin Peete, Jim Dent and Jim Thorpe, blacks who later succeeded on the PGA Tour. "Charlie's induction reminds

us how far we have come as a country and a game," PGA Tour Commissioner Tim Finchem said. "But it also reminds us how far we have to go."

Kite was among the steadiest

Rute was almoig are steatures, performers, finishing in the top 20 on the PGA Tour money list 15 consecutive years and twice winning the money title. His most productive year was 1989, when he won The Players Championship, the Tour Championship and was voted PGA Tour player of the

Aoki won 73 times around the world and is the only Japanese player to win on six tours. He is best known for holing out for eagle on the 18th hole in the 1983 Hawaiian Open to become the first Japanese player to win on the PGA Tour.



Charlie Sifford won twice on the PGA Tour and the 1975 Senior PGA Championship.

"I think he's the Arnold Palmer of Japanese golf," said Greg Norman, who introduced him. "To travel from your home shores is not an easy task."

Streit became the first Canadian inducted into the Hall of Fame. She had an amazing amateur career in which she won six national titles and last year captured the U.S. Senior Amateur at 69.

Big East will be one 16-team basketball division in '05-'06

The Associated Press

PROVIDENCE, R.I. — The Big East will be one 16-team division in 2005-06 and only 12 schools will participate in the postseason basketball tournament.

The league announced the new structure Monday and it takes effect following the addition in 2005 of five schools from Conference USA and Boston College's departure for the Atlantic Coast Confer-

Miami and Virginia Tech left for the ACC this academic year, leaving the Big East with 12 schools.

Louisville, Cincinnati, DePaul, Marquette and South Florida make the move from Conference USA to make it 16 schools. The schools will still play a

16-game regular-season schedule with 13 opponents and three repeat matchups. The league office will decide the repeat matchups and it will be based on television, rivalries and geography.

Only 12 schools will advance to

the annual postseason tournament at Madison Square Garden, the same as the current setup.

"The bottom line is we want to

help our best teams prepare for success in the NCAA tournament," commissioner Mike Tranghese said. "If we expanded our tourna-

ment field to 16 teams, there would be no byes — or rewards — for what's going to be an exciting, but grueling regular season."

The only other conference to have 16 members was the Western Athletic Conference from 1996-98. The biggest current league is Conference USA with 14 members.

The only difference in the women's basketball structure is that the schools will play all 15 other schools once with one repeat matchup.

Sports briefs

N.Y. commission suspends Holyfield after latest loss NEW YORK — Evander Holy-

field was suspended indefinitely by New York boxing officials in the wake of his loss Saturday night to journeyman Larry Donald.

The suspension means the 42-year-old former four-time heavyweight champion will have to seek medical clearance if he wants to fight again.

After losing a lopsided decision to Donald, Holyfield said he still plans to fight. Holyfield won only one round on one scorecard and two on the other two in the 12-round fight.

Holyfield has won only two of his last nine fights. He told the New York Daily News on Monday that the New York State Athletic Commission was involved in a "conspiracy" to get him out of boxing and that he would contest the ban.

Sports court sets new dates for Montgomery, Gaines hearings

LAUSANNE, Switzerland — Hearings in the doping cases of American sprinters Tim Montgomery and Chryste Gaines have been delayed until the middle of next year, the Court of Arbitration for Sport said Tuesday.

The sports world's highest court said Montgomery's hearing will start June 6 in San Francisco and Gaines' case will begin July 10 in New York. The hearings had been set to begin in early November, but were postponed at the request of all parties.

Montgomery, world record holder in the 100 meters, and Gaines have been charged by the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency and face lifetime bans if found guilty. Neither tested positive for

face lifetime bans if found guilty.

Neither tested positive for drugs, but each was charged based on evidence gathered in the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative case.

Federer returns from injury, advances in Masters Cup

HOUSTON — The worst is over for Roger Federer.

After being sidelined three weeks with a torn left thigh muscle, Federer returned Monday for a 6-1, 7-6 (4) victory over Gaston Gaudio of Argentina in the first round of the ATP Masters Cubamplionship and felt no effects

from his injury.
Federer and Gaudio were delayed more than 3½ hours by rain before completing their match.

In the evening match, Lleyton Hewitt was leading Carlos Moya 5-4 in the first set and 30-0 in the 10th game when the match was postponed until Tuesday by more rain.

Mauresmo withdraws from Fed Cup

PARIS — Amelie Mauresmo withdrew from France's Fed Cup team Tuesday, saying she needs time off before preparing for next year's Australian Open.

year's Australian Open.
Defending Fed Cup champion
France faces Spain in the semifinals later this month.

Mauresmo, ranked No. 2, lost in the WTA Championships semifinals to Serena Williams on Sunday. Mauresmo would have finished the year No. 1 had she won the tournament.

Mauresmo, 25, has never won a Grand Slam title.

"If you want to keep improving like all the great players then there are difficult choices to take," she said. "For me the time has come."



. ^

Russia's Maria Sharapova, above, won the WTA Championships final Monday with a 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 victory over Serena Williams.

Sharapova beats injured Serena Williams in WTA

BY BETH HARRIS The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Serena Williams' injury-induced weakened serves drove Maria Sharapova to distraction. Two games from ending the season in defeat, the Russian teenager focused on holding her own serve.

Sharapova overcame the early third-set mental lapse and beat williams for the WTA Champion-ships title 4-6, 6-2, 6-4 Monday night in a rematch of their Wimbledon final.

The 17-year-old Russian will rise to a career-high fourth when the year-end WTA rankings are released Tuesday.

"I don't think I could've asked for anything better this year." Sharapova said. "It's been an extraordinary year for me. I know that I'm not showing a lot of emotion, but I'm sort of just speech-

Sharapova stunned Williams for the Wimbledon title in July, propelling the blond teenager to international stardom. She finished the year with five titles. Williams trailed 5-2 in the second set when she called for a trainer after straining her abdominal muscle. The injury greatly affected Williams' serve — usually a 120-mph weapon but reduced to the 65-mph puff of a weekend hacker.

"After she got the medical treatment, I could tell that she had problems serving, but on the groundstrokes she was just teeing off on everything." Sharapova said. "Beside her serve, she didn't look injured once she was playing, so she was actually being really tough. I couldn't capitalize on the weak serves that she hit."

Williams left the court for five minutes and returned to have her serve broken in losing the set 6-2.

She rolled to a 4-0 lead in the third, including winning the first 11 points of the set and twice breaking a flustered Sharanova.

After the third game, the trainer reappeared to wind a large wrap around Williams' stomach. She slipped an ice bag under her shirt on later changeovers.

Losing beating down Browns coach Davis

The Associated Press

REREA Ohio - With his job security the talk of the town. Butch Davis looked like a beaten man as he discussed yet another excruciating loss

Nearly four seasons of injuries frustration, bitter defeats and mostly sub-par football appear to have taken their toll on Cleveland's coach

Building the Browns into Super Bowl champions has been much tougher than he imagined

"Losing is a painful, painful exerience, and we're frustrated," Davis said Monday while discussing the Browns' 24-10 loss to the Pittsburgh Steelers. "We're searching for answers on how to turn this thing around. . . . Losing [stinks]. Let's be real.

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cure for this misery is winning.

The Browns (3-6) are running out of time to salvage their season. And Davis may be a few losses from losing his job. On Monday, he addressed mounting speculation that this may be his final season in Cleveland

Davis, who is 24-34 since taking over the Browns in 2001 and 1-8 against the rival Steelers, is under contract until 2007. But if the Browns don't improve quickly, owner Randy Lerner could decide to make a coaching change.

Davis claims he has both Lerner's support and sympathy.

"We speak after every game, and I do believe that Randy clearly understands the challenges that we've had as an organization over the last two years." Davis said. "There has been an awful lot of very, very difficult things to have to overcome. I think he is clearly in the loop and knows ex actly what all those issues are. He knows where we are with the team from the talent and the coaching and the preparation. I

think he's very supportive." The Browns have lost three in a row and four of five, dropping into last place in the AFC North one game behind the Cincinnati Bengals - the NFL's standard bearers for futility.

But beyond the Browns' offensive ineptitude and 8-17 record since making the playoffs in 2002, there are other disturbing signs that Davis isn't getting the job done

The comments made by defensive tackle Gerard Warren that he was going to go after Pittsburgh rookie quarterback Ben Roethlisberger's head were embarrassing and fired up the Steelers.

There was also the silly pre-game trash talking that led to

Green being ejected for fighting with Steelers linebacker Joev Por-

Davis was troubled by both episodes, saving he didn't condone the behavior in either case while acknowledging that it was a reflection on him.

"Ultimately, everything that happens on that football field is a reflection on me," he said 'That's the ultimate responsibility as the head coach. You take it

And this year, taking it all has included quarterback Jeff Garcia's almost weekly criticism that the Browns coaching staff isn't utilizing his skills properly.

After Sunday's game, Garcia said the Browns were predictable, undisciplined and unimaginative.

"You name it, we do it — unfor-tunately the wrong way," Garcia

NFL scoreboard

American Conference

	East					
	w	1.	т	Pct	PF	ΡΔ
New England	8	1	0	.889	237	152
N.Y. Jets	6	3	0	.667	202	158
Buffalo	3	6	ñ	333	143	166
Miami	ī	8	ō	.111	123	186
	South					
Indianapolis	6	3	0	.667	298	220
Jacksonville	6	3	ñ	667	151	163
Houston	4	5	ō	.444	185	223
Tennessee	3	6	0	333	168	197
	North					
Pittsburgh	8	1	0	.889	221	147
Baltimore	6	3	0	.667	174	130
Cincinnati	4	5	0	444	169	179
Cleveland	3	6	ñ	333	170	198
	West					
Denver	6	3	0	.667	199	154
San Diego	6	3	0	.667	262	173
Kansas City	3	6		.333	257	238
Oakland	3	6	ō	.333	165	247

National Conference Fast

	w	L	Т	Pct	PF	PA
	8	1	0	.889		
	5	4	0	.556	186	158
	3	6	0	.333	162	252
			0	.333	125	150
So	uth					
	7	2	0	.778	194	184
	4	5	0	.444	198	254
	3	6	0	333	157	179
	5	7	ñ	.222	161	212
No	orth					
	5	4	0	.556	240	217
	5	4	0	.556	242	227
	4	5	ñ	444	155	159
	4	5	ñ	444	164	194
W	est					
	5	4	0	.556	203	217
	5	4	0	.556	206	168
		5	0	.444	167	179
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Chicago 19, Tennessee 17, OT Indianapolis 49, Houston 14 Baltimore 20, N.Y. Jets 17, OT Indiatingois 4, Houston I Ar St. Louis 23, Seattle 12 Allanta 24, Tampa Bay 14 Allanta 24, Tampa Bay 14 OT New Orlean 27, Kansas Chy 20 Pittsburgh 24, Cleveland 10 Artona 17, NY, Glants 14 Green Bay 34, Minnesota 31 Artona 17, NY, Glants 14 Green Bay 34, Minnesota 31 Oper: Mann, Derver, Dakland, San Diego Oper: Mann, Derver, Dakland, San Diego Philadelphin Gend's Sume Sunday, Nov. 21 Dalkas at Sanday, Nov. 21 Dalkas at Sanday, Nov. 21

St. Louis at Buffalo Indianapolis at Chicago Denver at New Orleans N.Y. Jets at Cleveland Arizona at Cieveland Arizona at Carolina Tennessee at Jacksonville Detroit at Minnesota Pittsburgh at Cincinnati San Francisco at Tampa R Francisco at Tamp mi at Seattle San Diego at Oakland Atlanta at N.Y. Giants Washington at Philadelphia Green Bay at Houston Monday, Nov. 22 New England at Kansas Citv

Monday Eagles 49, Cowboys 21

0 14 7 0-21 First Quarter Phi-Owens 59 pass from McNabb (Akers klck), 6:10.

Second Quarter
Phi—Levens 4 run (Akers kick), 14:53. Dal – Witten 29 pass from Testa liff kick), 13:15.

uni kick), 13:15.

Phi—Owens 27 pass from McNabb (Akers kick), 9:45.
Phi—Pinkston 59 pass from McNabb (Akers kick), 8:02.

Dal—Withan 24 ---Dal – Witten 24 pass from Testaverde (Cundiff kick), 3:23.

uiff Kick), 3:23.
Phi—Westbrook 1 run (Akers kick), :28.
Third Quarter
Dal—George 15 run (Cundiff kick), 11:15.
Phi—Owens 16 pass from McNabb (Ake kick), 6:04.

Phi-Sheppard 101 interception return (Akers kick), 4:19.
A = 64,190.

Punt Returns Kickoff Returns Punts Fumbles-Lost Penalties-Yards

Penalties-ran ...
Time of Possession
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS NDIVIDUAL STATISTICS
Rushing-Philadelphia, Levens 12-73, West-brook 15-56, McNabb 2-14, Owens 1-6, GLewis 1-2, Blake 2-(minus 2). Dallas, George 11-39, Anderson 6-28, Lee 2-4, Testaverde 3-1, KJohnson 1-0, Morgan 1-(minus 1).

(Minus) 1. A. (Monson 1-9, Morgan 1-1, (Minus) 1. Passing-Philadelphia 1. September 1. Passing-Philadelphia 1. Morabb 1. September 1. Passing-Philadelphia 1. Owens 6.134. Receiving-Philadelphia. Owens 6.134. Restroyed 6.24 Mitchell 1-0. Philasten 1-19. GLewis 1-12. Parry 1-5. Dallar 1. Chewis 1-12. Parry 1-5. D

Stars: McNabb, Eagles simply overrun Cowbovs

STARS. FROM BACK PAGE

Lito Sheppard capped the scoring with a 101-yard interception return.

Dallas has lost five of six games, the last three losses by at least 20 points each. The Cow-boys have lost eight of nine to Philadelphia by an average of 24 points.

"We couldn't slow them down simple as that," Cowboys coach Bill Parcells said. "They were too much for us. Unlike the 26-3 loss at Cincin-

nati the previous week, when Parcells called the Cowboys "stu-Dallas was simply outplayed this time. But there were still several boneheaded mistakes - such as flags on all three extra points, a fumbled punt and a muffed kickoff that was recov-

Dallas gave up its most points ever at home, and the most anywhere since losing 50-24 at Cincinnati in December 1985.

Philadelphia scored on four straight possessions in the second quarter, the first team to ever score four touchdowns in a quarter against Dallas.

The Eagles made it five straight possessions with a TD when Owens caught a 16-yarder over two defenders in the third quarter to make it 42-21 and give him his NFL hest 12th TD

"It takes a couple plays for us to get a little momentum," Mc-Nabb said. "Once things get going, we feel confident that every play that we call is going to be effective and possibly get in the end zone."

McNabb had the most incredible play, on third and 10 from the Philadelphia 25 in the second quarter. McNabb spun away from one

would-be tackler and sprinted to his right, only to find another defender. So he went back to his left, chased by two more players, and finally heaved the ball. Replays showed he held the ball for 14 seconds before the 60-yard pass to Freddie Mitchell.

"It felt like a video game out there," McNabb said. Parcells grimaced through it

all, knowing there was little he could do about yet another lonsid ed loss. The Cowboys' season is a bust, with the only curiosity left being when he'll turn the offense over to rookie quarterback Drew "We just got to get better," Par-

cells said. "I'm not going to get into the state of the union right now

Two days after turning 41, Vinny Testaverde hit 21 of 30 passes for 254 yards with two TDs to tight end Jason Witten, who had nine catches for 133 yards. Eddie George added a 15-yard TD run.

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Giants QB Manning to make first NFL start

BY TOM CANAVAN The Associated Press

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. -The wait for Eli Manning is over. and not at the request of the New York Giants ownership.

The Giants' quarterback of the future was given the starting job on Monday after two-time MVP Kurt Warner was benched following New York's third loss in four games

"It's exciting," said Manning, who has seen limited mop-up ac-tion in two games. "This is something I want to do. This is what I want to do for a living. This is why I want to play football, so I can go out there and be the starting quarterback. I'm looking forward to the opportunity.

"Now it's time to go out there and play football."

Manning will face the Atlanta Falcons (7-2) on Sunday at Giants Stadium in a game New York (5.4) needs to win to renew its playoff hopes.

Giants co-owner Wellington Mara said the front office didn't influence coach Tom Coughlin's choice to start Manning, who is the son of former NFL star Archie Manning and the brother of co-MVP Peyton Manning of the Indianapolis Colts.

"I don't think Tom Coughlin would work for an organization that made player decisions for him." Mara said in a statement released by the team.

The change came less than a day after the offense struggled for the second straight week in a 17-14 loss at Arizona

While Warner was professional

in handling the change, the demotion caught the 33-year-old former Super Bowl MVP off guard. He completed 19 of 31 passes for 193 yards, a touchdown and no interceptions in a game in which his offensive line did nothing to help him after the

Warner, who led the team to two touchdowns on its first two possessions, was sacked six times in the loss. He has been sacked 24 times in the past four games and 39 times this season.

first quarter.

"My play yesterday I don't

think had anything to do with that." Warner said of the change. "Read into that as much as you want, but there is a bigger picture here. There's more things that are trying to be accomplished.'

Warner, who had thrown six touchdowns and four interceptions in 268 attempts, seemed to suggest the organization wanted Manning to playget an idea about their \$46 million wonder kid.

"I really felt the last four games we haven't been playing well offensively. We just need to make a change," Coughlin said.

Brunell out, Ramsey in for Redskins

ASHBURN, Va. — Patrick Ramsey is the new starting quarterback for the Washington Redskins, a move coach Joe Gibbs hopes will end the team's worst scoring slump in seven de-

briefs

going to Philly.'

cades "We're going to make him the starter," Gibbs said Monday. "We have to sink or swim with the way I feel about things, ... We're going

to go with Patrick and hopefully he's going to play great for us, and we're all going to support him Gibbs benched Mark Brunell in the second quarter of Sunday's 17-10 loss to the Cincinnati Bengals.

but the coach waited until Monday to announce that Ramsey will start Sunday's game at Philadelphia. "It'll be a tough assignment for him," Gibbs said. "It's probably the biggest underdog we've ever been

Brunell was 1-for-8 for 6 yards when he was benched with the Redskins trailing 17-0. He ranks last in the league in completion percentage (49.8), yards per attempt (5.04) and overall rating (63.9) and the Redskins haven't scored more than 18 points in a game all season

Not since the Redskins played their home games in Boston, during the Dark Ages of scoring in the 1930s, has the team gone 10 games without scoring 20 points. The drought began with the season-ending 31-7 loss to Philadelphia last year and has continued through the first nine games of this season, bridging the coaching regimes of Steve Spurrier and Gibbs, who built reputations with high-scoring offenses

Ramsey had 16 starts over two seasons under Spurrier, but his starting role was put in jeopardy when Gibbs traded for Brunell and signed the veteran to a seven-year, \$43 million contract with an \$8.6 million signing bonus

Mularkey sticking with Bledsoe as Bills' starting QB

ORCHARD PARK, N.Y. - Mike Mularkey has a message to those clamoring for rookie quarterback J.P. Losman to replace Drew Bledsoe as Buffalo's starter. Not yet.

Mularkey on Monday insisted that Losman still needs plenty of work, considering the first-round draft pick missed almost two months recovering from a broken leg. The coach added that Bledsoe still gives the Rills' the best chance to win

That said. Mularkey wasn't happy in assessing Bledsoe's performance in Buffalo's 29-6 loss at New England on Sunday.

Bledsoe's long-term status as starter is up for debate now that the Bills (3-6), who host St. Louis on Sunday, have fallen out of the playoff picture.

After showing he can be efficient in a scaled-down passing attack, leading Buffalo to wins in three of its previous four games, Bledsoe unraveled against New England. He went eight of 19 for 76 yards, threw three interceptions and finished with a career-low quarterback rating of 14.3.



Patrick Ramsey (2 TDs, 5 INTs, 49 percent completion rate) will take over an offense that averages 13.9 points a game, which ranks 31st in the NFL.

In his NFL debut, Losman wasn't any better. He entered with 4:40 remaining and in five plays, including a running play, Losman completed one pass was sacked once, lost a fumble and was intercepted

Harrington's grip on Lions' starting job slipping ALLEN PARK, Mich. - Joey Harrington is the

starting quarterback of the Detroit Lions. After Monday, though, that position doesn't seem too secure. Lions coach Steve Mariucci gave his third-year jarterback a lukewarm endorsement one day after Harrington went 11-for-33 in a 23-17 overtime loss

in Jacksonville. "Right now, we're headed that way this week we haven't really discussed making a change," said when asked if Harrington would start Sunday in Minnesota. "We expect a certain level of perfor-mance and competence at every position, and that is

Bengals say a Redskin spit on one of their players CINCINNATI - Coach Marvin Lewis said one of

constantly being evaluated."

his Cincinnati Bengals was spit on during a 17-10 victory in Washington, and he hopes the NFL does something about it.

Receiver T.J. Houshmandzadeh confronted Redskins safety Sean Taylor at the end of the game Sun-

skins safety Sean Taylon at the chart of the game day, but declined to say why.

"It had nothing to do with physical contact,"
Houshmandzadeh said. "He's a punk."

Lewis said Monday that one of his players — het

wouldn't confirm it was Houshmandzadeh — got spit on. The receiver wasn't available for comme "We had a player spit on yesterday, and that's not

right," Lewis said. "It's something that's been escalating from certain players. Hopefully the league will do something to cut it out.

Joe Gibbs, in his news conference Monday, was asked about Lewis' comments.

"I wasn't aware of that until you just mentioned it." Gibbs said.

Taylor refused to comment. He hasn't spoken to the media since he was arrested and charged with drunken driving on Oct. 28.

Bears LB Urlacher out at least a month

LAKE FOREST, Ill. - Just when their defense was playing at a high level and sparking a three-game winning streak, Chicago Bears' star linebacker Brian Urlacher got hurt.

Urlacher will be out four to six weeks after suffering an injury to his lower left leg that required a surgical procedure Monday to relieve the pressure of internal bleeding.

The four-time Pro Bowler was injured during Sunday's 19-17 victory at Tennessee, but the severity did not surface until later.

"He suffered a blow yesterday to his lower leg," coach Lovie Smith said Monday, adding he didn't know when Urlacher would be released from the hospital.

'Last night we could tell some thing was wrong. So my immediate reaction, of course you know what that was. Brian Urlacher is a great player, a big part of what we are doing around here," Smith

Urlacher didn't miss a game in his first four seasons, but he hurt his hamstring in the first practice of training camp and sat out the entire preseason. He played two regular-season games before the hamstring forced him out of games against Minnesota and Philadelphia, both losses. Urlacher's injury is a downer

for a defense that has been in attack mode, especially the past two weeks in road victories. Chicago had seven sacks and

got five turnovers to beat the Giants 28-21 On Sunday, defensive end

Michael Haynes returned an interception for a TD and the Bears won in overtime when defensive end Alex Brown sacked Billy Volek for a safety. The Bears (4-5) play the India-

napolis Colts on Sunday. NFL injury update Injuries to prominent NFL players, fol-lowed by team's prognosis, (See Fri-day's edition for complete injury report

lowed by team's proposed period of the days edition for complete injury report provided by the league?

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Briefs

Chiefs RB Holmes likely out

KANSAS CITY, Mo. - Priest Holmes will likely miss Monday night's game against the New England Patriots with sprained knee ligaments, the same injury that to New Orleans on Sunday.

coach Dick Vermeil said Monday. "I think he's made a little progress, but he's got a long ways to go. I don't see him being any different than it was last week.

Holmes, who leads the NFL in scoring with 90 points and ranks third in the AFC in rushing with 892 vards, injured his right knee against Tampa Bay on Nov. 7. While he sat out the loss at New Orleans, his replacement, Derrick Blaylock, ran for 186 yards.

Vermeil said he does not expect Holmes will need surgery.

Jags OB Leftwich out again

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. - Jacksonville Jaguars coach Jack Del Rio expects to be without quarterback Byron Leftwich one more

"He's trying like crazy to get cleared for the game," Del Rio said Monday. "I still believe it's most likely that he'll be back next week (at Minnesota). We'll see how it goes." Leftwich sprained a ligament

in his left knee Oct. 31, leaving David Garrard to make his second career NFL start.

Moss likely to sit out at least one more game

EDEN PRAIRIE, Minn. Randy Moss will probably miss at least one more game for the Minnesota Vikings, whose All-Pro receiver hasn't caught a pass in a month because of a strained right hamstring

Coach Mike Tice said Monday Moss is progressing, but won't be allowed to play until he completes a week of practice. The Vikings (5-4) have lost three straight.

Tice said Moss' return for the Nov. 28 game against Jacksonville is "more than likely."

Paul rallies Wake Forest

Star fuels Deacons' second-half surge vs. GW

WINSTON-SALEM, N.C. - Wake Forest struggled with turnovers, shaky ballhandling and poor free-throw shooting in its first game

 of the season Fortunately for the sec-NCAA ond-ranked Demon Dea-cons, Chris Paul was there to help them through it. roundup

Paul scored 25 points and made several big plays in a decisive second-half run to send Wake Forest past George Washington 97-76 Monday night in the pre-

"There's still some rough edges that we can smooth out," Paul said, "I think we played to-

gether tonight, but we still have a lot of work Paul had six assists and three steals in 37 minutes despite being banged around by the physical Colonials defense, leading the Demon Deacons to a second-round home game Thurs-

day against Virginia Commonwealth. Justin Gray added 18 points and seven steals for the Demon Deacons, and Vytas

Danelius scored 17. Paul's effort was the highlight of a Wake Forest performance that followed a familiar pattern from last season. The Demon Deacons had four players score in double figures and shot 56 percent, but they had trouble on defense until switching to a triangle-and-two

late in the game. Ultimately, the Demon Deacons did enough late to secure their 11th straight season-open

ing victory.

George Washington (0-1) tried several halfcourt and fullcourt trapping defenses, hoping to force Paul — the leading vote-getter on The Associated Press preseason All-America team - to give the hall un.

When the Colonials failed. Paul made them pay by spinning through double teams, penetrating into the lane and finding open team-

He certainly paid for it. The sophomore was fouled several times while trying to bring the ball upcourt against the traps. He bruised his knee when he fell on a drive to the basket. At one point, he was even stepped on by teammate Kyle Visser after being knocked down under the basket.

The Demon Deacons led by 14 early in the second half, but struggled to put away the Co-lonials. George Washington hit eight three-pointers, closing to 75-70 on a three by

Carl Elliott midway through the second half But Paul made sure the Demon Deacons did not disappoint their rowdy crowd, leading a 10-2 charge that finally gave them a working margin in the final minutes

In other preseason NIT games Monday:

Michigan 59, Binghamton 46: In Ann Arbor, Mich., Dion Harris scored 14 of his 16 points in the second half to help the Wolver-

ines rally from an early deficit Harris was just 1-for-5 in the first half as the Wolverines fell behind by 12 points and trailed 32-28 at intermission.

Daniel Horton led Michigan with 17 points. Trailing 39-32, Michigan seized control on both ends of the floor with Brent Petway's dunk off an alley-oop pass from Harris that gave the Wolverines a 41-39 lead with 12:35 to play. It was Michigan's first lead since Horton onened the game with a three-noint shot

Michigan went on a 21-2 run over a 12:05 span to overtake the Bearcats, who missed 18 consecutive shots from the field during the Wolverines' scoring spree.

Colorado 72. Charleston 57: Freshman Richard Roby led host Colorado's balanced scoring with 19 points.

Roby showed plenty flash and dash, breaking out for dunks, creating room for his jump-



Chris Paul (3) had 25 points, six assists and three steals to lead Wake Forest to a 97-76 victory over George Washington on Monday.

er and setting up teammates in his debut. He added eight rebounds and shot 7-for-11, including a three-pointer with 5 minutes left after Charleston cut the lead to 63-55.

Julius Ashby added 13 points and Jayson Obazuaye had 10 for Colorado. Josh Jackson had 12 points to lead Charleston, which shot 26 percent and was 4-for-26 on three-pointers.

Va. Commonwealth 82. American 76 (OT): In Richmond, Va., B.A. Walker scored nine of points in overtime as the Rams (1-0) earned the opportunity to play No. 2 Wake For-est, which beat VCU 79-78 last year in the first round of the NCAA tournament.

Andre Ingram set a Siegel Center record

with 38 points, and had 18 in the first half as the Eagles (0-1) led 36-24 at halftime

Welch. Hood lead AFA over Ole Miss

MILWAUKEE -

Hood scored 15 points and Nick Welch added 14, leading Air Force to a 60-36 victory over Mississippi in Monday's second round of the Black

Coaches Association Classic. Matt McCraw added 11 points for Air Force (2-0). The game was in the winner's bracket on the second day of the three-day tournament. Mississippi (1-1) was led by

Todd Abernethy with 12

McCraw had a three-point play and Welch a three-pointer to help the Falcons turn a halftime tie into a 25-19 lead.

Abernethy hit a three-pointer for Ole Miss to make it 25-22, but Air Force scored four straight points and the Rebels never got closer than seven points.

Preseason NIT

Niagara at Providence Quinnipiac at Pennsylvania Wright State at Tulsa

Wright State at Tuisa
San Diego at Arizona
Quarterfinals
Wednesday, Nov. 17
Colorado at Michigan

Not much movement in men's Top 25 poll

By JIM O'CONNELL The Associated Press

The first poll of the college basketball regular season looks a lot

like the preseason Top 25. Syracuse and Illinois switched places at Nos. 5 and 6 Monday, the only movement from the previous rankings.

Only three ranked teams played since the preseason Top 25 was released. Syracuse, Mississippi State and Memphis all won their opening two games in the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic. Kansas stayed in the No. 1 spot

and was again followed by three Atlantic Coast Conference teams Wake Forest, Georgia Tech and North Carolina

Syracuse, which beat Northern Colorado and Princeton to open the season, moved up to fifth and was followed by Illinois, Oklahoma State, Connecticut, Kentucky

Kansas received 26 first-place votes and 1,703 points from the national media panel, while Wake Forest had 23 and 1.685.

and Arizona.

Georgia Tech was No. 1 on 10 ballots while North Carolina had eight first-place votes, Illinois and Oklahoma State each had two and Kentucky received one.

Mississippi State beat Fairfield and Birmingham Southern with-



Top-ranked Kansas and center Wayne Simien begin their season Friday against Vermont.

preseason All-America Lawrence Roberts. The 6-foot-10 senior forward missed the first game as he served a one-game sus-pension from the NCAA over his expenses to attend a tryout before the NBA Draft. He didn't play in the second game because he was recovering from a broken nose.

Roberts said he expects to play Thursday night in the Coaches vs. Cancer Classic semifinals against Syracuse

Memphis, which beat Savannah State and George Mason, will play Saint Mary's, Calif., in the other semifinal at Madison Square Garden.

AP Men's Top 25

	Record	Pts	Pv
1. Kansas (26)	0-0	1.703	1
2. Wake Forest (23)	0-0	1 685	5
3. Georgia Tech (10)	0-0	1 575	3
4. North Carolina (8)	0-0	1,540	Ă
5. Syracuse	20	1 460	2
6. Illinois (2)	0-0 0-0 0-0 0-0 2-0 0-0	1 452	ĕ
7. Oklahoma St. (2)	0-0	1 265	7
8. Connecticut	0-0	1,300	6
	0-0	1,278	0
9. Kentucky (1) 10. Arizona	0-0	1,190	,9
11. Duke	0-0	1.009	10
11. Duke	0-0	1,009	11
Mississippi St.	2-0 0-0	932	
14. Louisville	0-0	877	14
14. Louisville 15. Maryland 16. Texas 17. Pittsburgh 18. Alabama 19. N.C. State 20. Notre Dame	0-0	778	15
16. Texas	0-0	650	16
17. Pittsburgh	0-0	637	17
18. Alabama	0-0	520	18
19. N.C. State	0-0	506	19
20. Notre Dame	0-0	413	20
21. Wisconsin	0-0		
22. Washington	0-0	335	22
23. Florida	0-0	320	23
19. N.C. State 20. Notre Dame 21. Wisconsin 22. Washington 23. Florida 24. Memphis 25. Gorgana	2-0	311	24
25. Gonzaga	0-0	204	25
Others receiving vo	ites: Sta	anford	79.
Michigan 52, Charlotte	36. Prov	idenc	e 31.
Cincinnati 27, S. Illinoi:	5.26. Okl	ahom	a 25.
Utah 18, Boston Colle	ge 11 1.	O Go	orne
Washington 7, UTEP 7.	Vermon	t 6. III	AR 5.
ETSU 4, LSU 4, Tenne	SSPP 4.	Tolec	0.4
UCLA 4, UNLV 4, IOW	St. 2.	Orego	n 2.
Rice 2, Indiana 1, Va.	Commo	nweat	th 1.
Vanderbilt 1.			

The ACC's six ranked teams are one short of the record. The Big Ten had seven teams

ranked for four weeks in January 1993, a feat matched by the Atlantic Coast Conference for two weeks in December 1997 and by the Big Ten for one week in January 1999.

The most recent time the Big Ten did it, seven schools were in the Top 20 — Michigan State (8), Wisconsin (12), Purdue (14), Ohio State (15), Iowa (16), Minnesota (19) and Indiana (20).

Lady Vols still the one BY CHUCK SCHOFFNER

The Associated Press

Shooting 63 percent against a ranked opponent wasn't enough to pull Texas closer to No. 1 Tennessee in the AP women's basket-

In fact, the Longhorns lost ground Monday despite their tor-rid shooting in an 84-69 victory over then No. 21 Penn State Tennessee (0-0) received 22

first-place votes from a national media panel — two more than in last week's preseason poll - and had 1.092 points. That was 31 points more than

Texas. The Longhorns received six first-place votes in the latest poll, one fewer than last week.

LSU, which survived a close call against No. 8 Baylor, re-mained third with 11 first-place votes and 1,059 points. Connecticut, winner of the past three national championships, staved at No. 4 with six first-place votes and 1,008 points.

This was the 95th time at No. 1 for Tennessee, which regained the lead from Connecticut in that category. UConn has 94 appearances at No. 1.

Tennessee opens the season Friday at Chattanooga, Connecticut also starts Friday, hosting Buffalo.

Just nine teams in the Top 25 played during the first weekend of the season and only five changed places.

AP Women's Top 25

The top 25 teams in The Associated ress' women's college basketball poll, with first-place votes in parentheses, records through Nov. 14, total points based on 25 points for a first-place vote through one point for a 25th-place vote and last week's ranking:

1. Tennessee (22)	0.0	1,092 1
2. Texas (6)	1.0	1.061 2
3. LSU (11)	3-0	1.059 3
4. Connecticut (6)	0-0	1,008 4
5. Georgia	0-0	888 5
6. Duke	2-0	871 6
7. Stanford	0-0	1,061 2 1,059 3 1,006 4 888 5 871 6 825 7
8. Baylor	0-0	780 8
9. North Carolina	0-0	744 9
10. Ohio St.	2-0	705 10
11. Notre Dame	2-0	678 10
11. Notre Dame	0-0	0/8 10
12. Texas Tech 13. Vanderbilt		624 12 550 13
14. Minnesota		506 14
15. Michigan St.	0-0	442 15
16. Purdue	0-0	492 15
17. Rutgers	0-0	426 16 372 17
18. Boston College	0-0	356 18
19. Kansas St.		300 18
20. DePaul	0-0	340 19 277 20
21. Oklahoma	0-0	209 22
21. Okianoma 22. Arizona	0-0	193 24
23. Penn St.	0-1	150 21
24. Maryland	0-0	146 23
25. Louisiana Tech	0-0	104 25
Others receiving vo	0-0	104 25
29, Villanova 22, Chat	tancora 1	a 13, Utar
minion 12, SW Missou	el C+ 11 7	TCIL 10 LIC
Santa Barbara 10, Au	burn 6 A	rizona St
5. UNLV 5. New Mexic		
dle Tennessee 3, Ric	hmond 2	Miami 2
Mississippi 2, Houst	ton 1 AA	ontana 1
WisGreen Bay 1.	LOII 1, IVI	Ulitalia I
wis. diceil bay 1.		

LSU is 3-0 under first-year coach Pokey Chatman but blew a 21-point lead against Baylor be-fore winning 71-70.

Duke, Ohio State, Notre Dame and Arizona all have won twice in the preseason WNIT, while Min-nesota opened with a 77-69 victory over UNLV.

In the WNIT semifinals Wednesday, Duke plays at Notre Dame and Ohio State hosts Arizona.

Cavaliers above .500 for 1st time **since 2001**

The Associated Press

CLEVELAND - The Cleveland Cavaliers have more proof that they're getting better. Look. it's right there in the standings. For the first time in more than three years, they have more wins

than losses Take another bow, LeBron

James Last season's rookie of the year and the current player of the



week had 33 points and 12 rebounds, helping the Cavaliers move above .500 for the

first time since 2001 with their fourth straight victory, 99-88 over the Golden State Warriors on Monday night

Zydrunas Ilgauskas scored 16 points — 10 in the fourth quarter and Drew Gooden had 13 re bounds for the Cavaliers (4-3) who hadn't had a winning record since Jan. 12, 2001, when they were 17-16

James was a high school sopho-more back then. He's an NBA sophomore now, getting better by the day

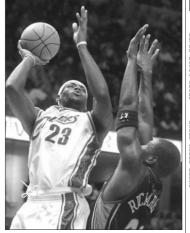
"LeBron had a pretty nice game, huh?" Warriors coach Montgomery said. "He Mike made some tough, tough shots. We can't do much about those turnarounds because he's just big-

With his third 30-plus point performance this season, James tem-porarily moved past Kobe Bryant for the league's scoring lead.

More importantly, he's playing for a winner.

"That doesn't mean a thing." James said of the Cavaliers' winning mark. "It's the early season, so we can't be worrying about that. We've got to win a lot more.

But after losing 52, 53, 65 and games the past four seasons with little more to look forward to



Cleveland Cavaliers' LeBron James, left, shoots over Golden State Warriors' Jason Richardson during the third quarter of Cleveland's 99-88 victory Monday in Cleveland, James scored 33 points.

than the NBA lottery, being above .500 was worth celebrating "It means a whole lot to me,"

Cavs coach Paul Silas said. "We're one game over and we

just have to keep this thing roll-

Ilgauskas scored his 10 points during Cleveland's decisive fourth-quarter spurt that helped the Cavaliers open a six-point lead and put the Warriors away.

Jason Richardson matched a season high with 27 points and Derek Fisher had 15 for Golden

State, which dropped to 1-7. James, whose shooting touch has improved, drained three

three-pointers and scored 21 points in the first half — 17 on out-

"He's making them all," Richardson said. "If he does that he's going to be dangerous. He's dangerous already, but if he makes those - look out

Rockets 80, Nets 69: At East Rutherford, N.J., Maurice Taylor

shook off early foul trouble by making three straight shots to snap Houston out of an early offensive funk

The Rockets missed their first eight shots and fell behind 11-0 before Taylor, whose third foul came just 3:34 into the first quarter, scored Houston's first six

Jim Jackson closed the first quarter with a three-pointer for a 20-17 edge, giving Houston the lead for good. The Rockets eventually went ahead by as many as 22 to snan a two-game skid.

Tracy McGrady returned from a two-game absence due to a strained right hip and scored 14 points, including a jumper in the lane on which he was fouled with 4:30 left to hold off a mild rally.

Jim Jackson scored a se son-high 18 and Taylor added 12. Richard Jefferson led New Jersev with 17 points and 11 re-

The Nets shot just 23-for-75 and dropped their third straight.

guard Brevin Knight will return

NBA scoreboard

Eastern Conference Atlantic Divisi 2 .714 2 .600 3 .571 3 .500 4 .000

Western Conference



utan at Charlotte Seattle at Philadelphia Houston at Atlanta Miami at Minnesota New York at San Antonio Phoenix at Dallas noenix at Danas hicago at Sacramento pronto at L.A. Clippers wanesday's g

Wednesday
Utah at Orlando
Atlanta at Indiana
Boston at Washington
Minnesota at Detroit
Seattle at New Jersey
Phoenix

Monday Cavaliers 99, Warriors 88

GOLDEN STATE — Dunleavy 5-13 0-0 11, Murphy3-11 1-17, Robinson 5-103-4 13, Clax-ton 1-4 0-0 2, Richardson 12-25 2-3 27, Fisher 5-10 3-3 15, Najera 3-7 1-1 7, Davis 0-0 0-0 0, Cheaney 1-2 0-0 2, Foyle 0-0 3-4 3, Sesay 0-1

CLEVILAND — James 12-22 F-8 33, Good-6-113-23 O, Newbit - 36-22 A, Burrie c) - 3 O, 8-113-23 O, Newbit - 36-22 A, Burrie c) - 3 O, 17-75/97 - 25-02 - 25-20 - 25-2

Rockets 80. Nets 69

14, Walfd 2-39-0-2, Neuromoto 2-3-2-a 1-use 2-3-14, Walfd 2-39-0-2, Neuromoto 2-3-2-a 1-use 2-3-14, Walfd 2-39-0-3, New Hilliams 3-9-0-6, 16-0-2, 16-1-14, Sept. 1-15, Merry 1-15, M

son 0-2, Plaininic 0-2, EWilliams 0-3). Fouled out—Mourning. Rebounds—Houston 42 (Howard 9), New Jersey 60 (Jefferson, Scala-inie 11). Assists—Houston 22 (Jackson, McGrady 4), New Jersey 12 (Plainine 4). Total Couls—Houston 26, New Jersey 24. Technical—Houston Defensive Three Second. A—13,942 (19,860).

NBA leaders Through Nov. 14

Nowitzki, Dal James, Clev. Iverson, Phil. Allen, Sea. Wade, Mia. 65 49 55 28 45 49 31 24 22 65 41 50 44 50 46 FG FGA 27 43 27 44 Drobniak, Atl. Haslem, Mia. McDyess, Det Miller, Sac.

DEF TOT 64 77 60 89 51 72 52 82

Sonics staking out new territory — in first place

BY JIM COUR The Associated Press

SEATTLE - Nate McMillan looks at the standings of the new Northwest Division and sees

something a little odd - the SuperSonics are in first place. "Whether it's a surprise to a lot of people - and I think it is - to me I just respect the way we're

playing," the Seattle coach said.

The SuperSonics have won six straight after losing their opener to the Los Angeles Clippers by 30 points and going 2-6 in the exhibi-

"We're playing the game hard, we're playing the game together, McMillan said. "I can live with the outcome whatever it is as long as we play hard and we play un-

selfish basketball." The latest victory came Sunday night, a 118-113 decision over Memphis in which Seattle rallied after trailing by 21 points late in the third quarter. The Grizzlies won 50 games and made the playoffs last season, but the Sonics out-

scored them 34-13 in the final The Sonics also have home victories over San Antonio and Sacramento and a win in Denver this season. All were playoff teams last season, with the Tim Duncan-led Spurs expected to be championship contenders again. Seattle beat them by 19.

'Everyone in our locker room. we know we can play," starting point guard Luke Ridnour said 'We don't listen to what people say about us. We're just going to keep playing hard. We're not going to change anything. We're just going to keep playing hard."

The Sonics feature four-time All-Star Ray Allen in the backcourt and small forward Rashard Lewis, their second best offensive option. They don't have a lot after that, although backup point guard Antonio Daniels has been excellent. He scored 28 points against Memphis.

"When they have a third guy step up his game, that makes them tough," the Grizzlies' Shane Battier said. "Rashard and Ray will always be there, and most teams will focus on stopping those guys. If someone else comes up big, they're in good shape.

Bobcats activate Sampson for help up front

The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — In desperate need of frontcourt help, the Charlotte Bobcats activated forward Jamal Sampson on Monday even though he isn't 100 percent healthy.

Sampson is close to being fully recovered from foot surgery he had in March, but the expansion team needs him now. Center Primoz Brezec has a sore shoulder and forward Emeka Okafor hurt his ankle, and both are worn out from playing three games last

"We need the size, we need 'bigs' - three games in five days, Emeka and Primoz are worn



coach Bernie Bickerstaff

Sampson could split playing time with Jahidi White. The two simply need to provide enough minutes to relieve Okafor and

Keith Bogans, acquired in a trade with Orlando before the season started, was also activated.

To make room for the two, the Bobcats sent guard Bernard Robinson and forward Tamar Slay to the injured list. Meanwhile, the Bobcats hope

to the lineup Tuesday night games with a wrist injury. Jason Hart, who moved from shooting guard to point guard to replace him, is questionable with an ankle injury.

Nets' Mercer has knee surgery

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. -Nets guard Ron Mercer had arthroscopic surgery on his left knee Monday and is expected to miss six to eight weeks.

The surgery, to remove loose particles, was performed by Dr. Michael Kelly in New York. Mercer averaged 9.3 points in

three games as the starting shooting guard.

Angels' Guerrero selected MVP LHP Leiter a free agent

Outfielder wins award over Sheffield, Ramirez in first season in AL

The Associated Press

NEW YORK - Vladimir Guerrero won the American League MVP award Tuesday, just the fifth time a player switched leagues and earned the honor in his first season with his new

The Anaheim Angels right field-er received 21 of 28 first-place votes and 354 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Associa tion of America.

New York Yankees right fielder Gary Sheffield finished second with five first-place votes and 254 points. Boston players split the remaining two first-place votes. with left fielder Manny Ramirez finishing third with 238 points and designated hitter David Ortiz winding up fourth with 174

Guerrero, 28, signed with the



Anaheim Angels' Vladimir Guerrero become the fifth player to switch leagues and win an MVP award in his first season with his new team.

Angels last winter after eight seasons with the Montreal Expos. He hit .337 with 39 homers and 126 RBIs as Anaheim won the AL West, and led the league with 124 runs and 366 total bases. He batted .371 in September with 10 homers and 23 RRIs

The only other non-rookies who became MVPs in their first AL seasons were Baltimore's Frank Robinson (1966), Chicago's Dick Allen (1972) and Detroit's Willie Hernandez (1984). In the NL Kirk Gibson accomplished the feat with Los Angeles in 1988

the NL Cy Young Award last week following his first season in the league. Clemens won six Cy Youngs in the AL.

Guerrero became the second Angels player to win, joining Don Baylor (1979). He is the fourth Dominican to be MVP, following Toronto's George Bell (1987), the Chicago Cubs' Sammy Sosa (1998) Oakland's Miguel Tejada (2002).

Guerrero gets a \$500,000 bonus for winning the award and Ramirez \$100,000 for finishing third. Ortiz didn't get anything for finishing fourth - but would get \$400,000 for finishing second through fifth in his contract that starts next season

Teiada, now with Baltimore, gets a \$300,000 bonus for finishing fifth, and Detroit's Ivan Rodriguez gets \$100,000 for winding

after Mets buv out deal

NEW YORK - Al Leiter became a free agent Monday when the New York Mets declined his \$10.2 million option and decided to pay a \$2.1 million buyout.

The left-hander went 10-8 with a 3.21 ERA in 30 starts last sea-



son. He began the year by pitching 151/3 scoreless inthen nings, was on the disabled

from May 11 to June 1 because of tendinitis in his left shoulder. A member of the Mets for the

last seven seasons, the 39-year-old Leiter also has pitched for the New York Yankees, Toronto and Florida. The Mets had said they were in-

terested in keeping Leiter, but not at the price of the option. Kris Benson, another starter the Mets say they hope to re-sign, also became a free agent.

If the Mets had exercised the ontion. Leiter would have had 10 days to accept or reject it.

Kent meets with Tigers

DETROIT - Free agent second baseman Jeff Kent, coming off an All-Star season with the Houston Astros, met with Detroit Tigers officials.

Kent, 36, was named National League Most Valuable Player in 2000 while with the San Francisco Giants. The 13-year major league veteran hit .289 with 27 home runs and 107 RRI for House ton this year

The four-time All-Star has driven in more than 100 runs in seven of his past eight seasons, including a career-high 128 with the Giants in 1998. Kent signed with the Astros in 2003

Angels exercise option on Bengie Molina, not on Ortiz

ANAHEIM, Calif. - The Anaheim Angels exercised the contract option on catcher Bengie Molina for next season on Monday, but declined to do the same for pitcher Ramon Ortiz.

The right-handed Ortiz, 31, will remain on the Angels' 40-man roster and he eligible for salary arbitration. The Angels gave him a \$100,000 buyout instead of paying him \$5.5 million for 2005.

Molina, 30, batted .276 with 10 home runs and 54 RBIs in 97 games last season. His contract for 2005 will be worth \$3 million

Cardinals' Isringhausen has hip surgery

ST. LOUIS — Cardinals closer Jason Isringhausen had successful surgery on his left hip Monday and should be fully recovered in time for spring training. The right-hander had a ca-

reer-best 47 saves last season, matching the club record and tying Florida's Armando Benitez for the NL lead.

He is expected to resume full activities in six to eight weeks.

NL MVP shows age hasn't touched Bonds

arry Bonds had every reason to drop off this year. The steroid scandal hounded him His father was gone. He got little help from batters behind him and saw too few

Then there was that little matter of his age. 40 years old, a milestone that often takes a toll on a hitter's reflexes, his legs and sometimes on the eves.

Steve Wilstein

pitches over the plate.



Yet here he is again winning the NL MVP in a walk his fourth in a row and No. 7 overall, both records - with two years left on

his contract with the San Francisco Giants. here he is still yearning to win a World Series ring. even as he closes in on the career home run marks of Babe Ruth and Hank

Bonds says he can't figure out why he seems to be getting better with age. He'd like a little credit for that, rather than questions about chemical

In truth, he's been blessed with talent, taken care of his body in a way that he says his late alcoholic father, Bobby, and other great players did not, and he's pushed himself to work harder every season in pursuit of that elusive ring. More than that, he was born into baseball and still loves the game.

"There's a light switch that turns on on me as soon as that season starts," he said Monday from his home in Beverly Hills, Calif, "I could go through spring training in halfway-mode. But as soon as they say baseball starts. I change. Everything inside of me. I don't know what it is '

What keeps him going through the grind of the season, he says, is the chase for a champi-

"That one thing not being in my life is something that drives me more than anything else does," he said. "To watch other people win drives me to want to be in that circle. Every year I try to get better."

Bonds' monster season was astonishing for what he did as much as for what he might have done if he hadn't been walked so ridiculously often.



San Francisco Giants' Barry Bonds won his fourth straight NL MVP Award after walking a record 232 times during the season.

Consider a season like this: 62 home runs. 141 runs batted in, 180 runs, 188 hits, .362 batting average

Those are the gaudy numbers Bonds would have been projected to produce, according to the statistics whizzes at the Elias Sports Bureau, if he had walked the same number of times St. Louis' Albert Pujols did (84), instead of a record 232 times

The hard part about all those walks whether intentional or on pitches just outside the strike zone - is how much they wear on his concentration and his legs.

"I've tried to explain to players that it's a lot harder to walk than it is to jog back to the dugout and take a rest," he said. "I'm on my feet all day. A lot of teams wear me down. I know they do it intentionally. Sometimes I come through.

"I'm not able to do it as often as I used to. But that has to do with age, too. I'm getting older. My attention span probably isn't going to be the same.

As it was, Bonds hit 45 homers to push his career total to 703 (11 shy of Ruth, 52 behind Aaron), 101 RBIs, 129 runs and 135 hits, along with that .362 average. Throw in a slugging percentage of .812 and an on-base percentage of .609 (topping the .582 mark he set two years ago) and he made the issue of age almost as irrelevant as the suspicions about steroids

Anyone can speculate on how much help Bonds has gotten in recent years if he used the steroids that his personal trainer. Greg Anderson, is charged with distributing from the Bay Area Laboratory Co-Operative to top Yet in the absence of positive tests on Bonds

and the lack of convictions in the ongoing investigation, the only conclusive evidence is the fact that Bonds is doing things at bat that simply can't be attributed to any known drug There isn't a stemid in the world that can ac-

count for his patience at the plate as he waits for hittable pitches, or his uncanny solid contact with the ball when he does swing. His body armor lets him hug the plate, and his short, compact swing is the deadliest in the Collectively, according to Elias, players bat-

ting behind him this season produced a .264 batting average, 19 homers, 103 RBIs — not bad, but hardly the support that Puiols, Scott Rolen and Jim Edmonds gave each other in the St. Louis lineup

Those three Cardinals finished third, fourth and fifth in the NL MVP voting behind No. 2 Adrian Beltre of Los Angeles

Bonds says he wants a big hitter or two behind him for protection, especially young players he can teach. But he's not nushing the Giants, who may not be able to afford the free agents out there.

"We'd all love to click our heels and get whoever we need," Giants general manager Brian Sabean said, "Barry knows that we're running a business and it's not that easy. You're also kind of married to what you do, including the size of his contract on the roster

San Francisco's top priority this offseason, Sabean said, is boosting the bullpen with a closer. That means Bonds probably won't be seeing Beltre or Carlos Beltran batting behind him next season

Bonds might not like it but that won't stop the light switch from going on when he hears, "Play ball.

Steve Wilstein is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at swilstein@ap.org

SPORTS



Angels right fielder Guerrero wins AL MVP award. Page 31

Eagles' Owens stars



Dallas Cowboys safety Roy Williams, left, walks away from Philadelphia Eagles wide receiver Terrell Owens, center, as Owens stands on a small star logo painted on a helmet in the end zone after a 27-vard touchdown catch by Owens in the first half Monday night. The Eagles won 49-21.

WR scores three TDs in rout of Cowbovs

By STEPHEN HAWKINS The Associated Press

IRVING, Texas - Terrell Owens must be running out of material for his touchdown celebrations. Two weeks after mocking Ray Lewis, he reverted to one of his old moves.

Back on the field where he began turning scores into performance opportunities, Owens once again did his thing on the Dallas Cow-boys' logo. Only this time, he used a star on a helmet in the end zone, not the large one at

Owens had plenty of chances to celebrate Monday night with three TD catches in the Eagles' 49-21 win over Dallas.

He pretended to ice skate into the end zone

after his 59-yard touchdown in the first quar ter. He posed on the smaller star logo in the end zone after his 27-yarder in the second quarter and then slam-dunked the ball over the crossbar after his last score.

"I'm just going out here having fun," said Owens, who had six catches for 134 yards in his second three-TD game this season do too much . . . I just have to keep it low key." The latest celebrations were nothing like four years ago when Owens was with San Francisco and celebrated twice on the midfield logo. Emmitt Smith mocked him after the first one, and safety George Teague flat-

tened him on the next one.

Philadelphia (8-1) rebounded from its only loss by scoring its most points in a regular-sea son game since 1981

Donovan McNahh completed 15 of 28 pass es for 345 yards and four touchdowns, the other a 59-yarder to Todd Pinkston. He also had an incredible scramble that led to a 60-yard completion and set up Brian Westbrook's 1-yard run just before halftime.

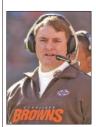
The Eagles had a 35-14 halftime lead, already with more points than they had scored in a game this season and matching the most ever allowed by Dallas (3-6) in a half.

"The guys took pride in themselves to come out here and rebound from the loss last week." Owens said, "We came in with a passion, the pride and the character of the guys on this team, and it showed today.

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Davis on thin ice as losses mount in Cleveland

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Injured Williams can't keep up with Sharapova

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